

MARVEL

1

ANN NOCENTI • PAOLO VILLANELLI • JAVIER TARTAGLIA

CAPTAIN MARVEL DARK TEMPEST





HARPSWELL SOUND.

MAINE.



ROUND
'A SHOTS ON
THE HOUSE.

CAROL?

JOIN US
WITH A SHOT
OF WATER?

I AM
THIRSTY.

THAT'S THE
SPIRIT, CAROL.
YOU QUIT THE DRINK.
DON'T MEAN YOU
CAN'T TOAST
WITH US.

THANKS,
ANDY.

EVERYONE
KNOWS YOU ONLY
POP INTO THE BEST
PUB IN MAINE WHEN
YOU SEE *ME* IN THE
WINDOW.

DO THEY
NOW. RODNEY'S
DOCKSIDE ISN'T
JUST A BAR, LOUIS.
IT'S HARPSWELL'S
LIVING ROOM.





THIS IS THE BEST SPOT TO WATCH A STORM ROLL IN AND CATCH A LITTLE GOSSIP.

YEAH, LIKE WHO'S SNEAKIN' INTO WHOSE POTS.

HEY! NONE 'A THAT IN HERE. FIRE THAT SHOT THERE'LL BE A RIOT.

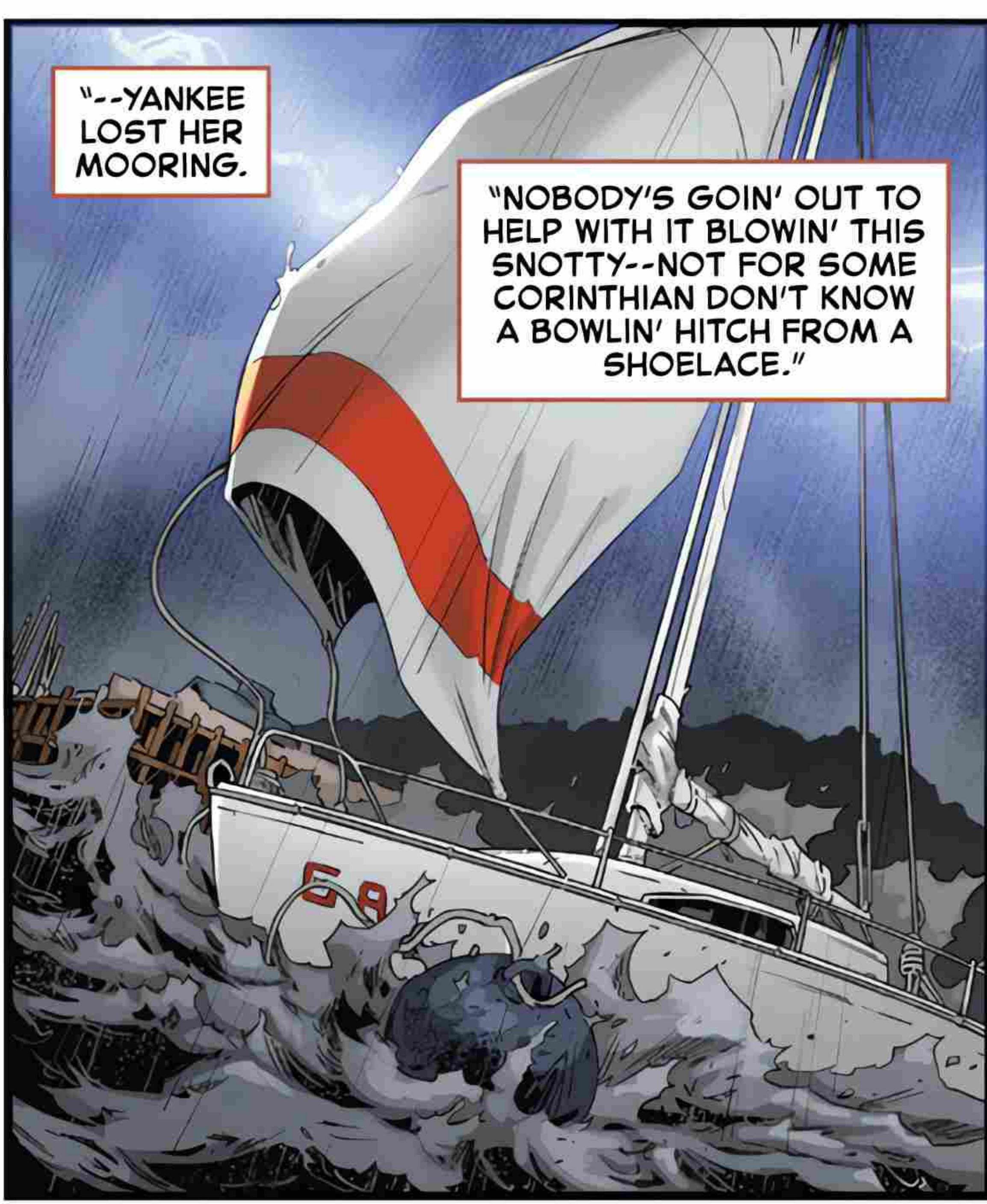


RADAR SAYS SHE'LL COME CLEAR QUICK.

BLOWIN' WICKED. THINK IT'LL GET WORSE?

HARD TELLIN' NOT KNOWIN'.

UH-OH--



"--YANKEE LOST HER MOORING.

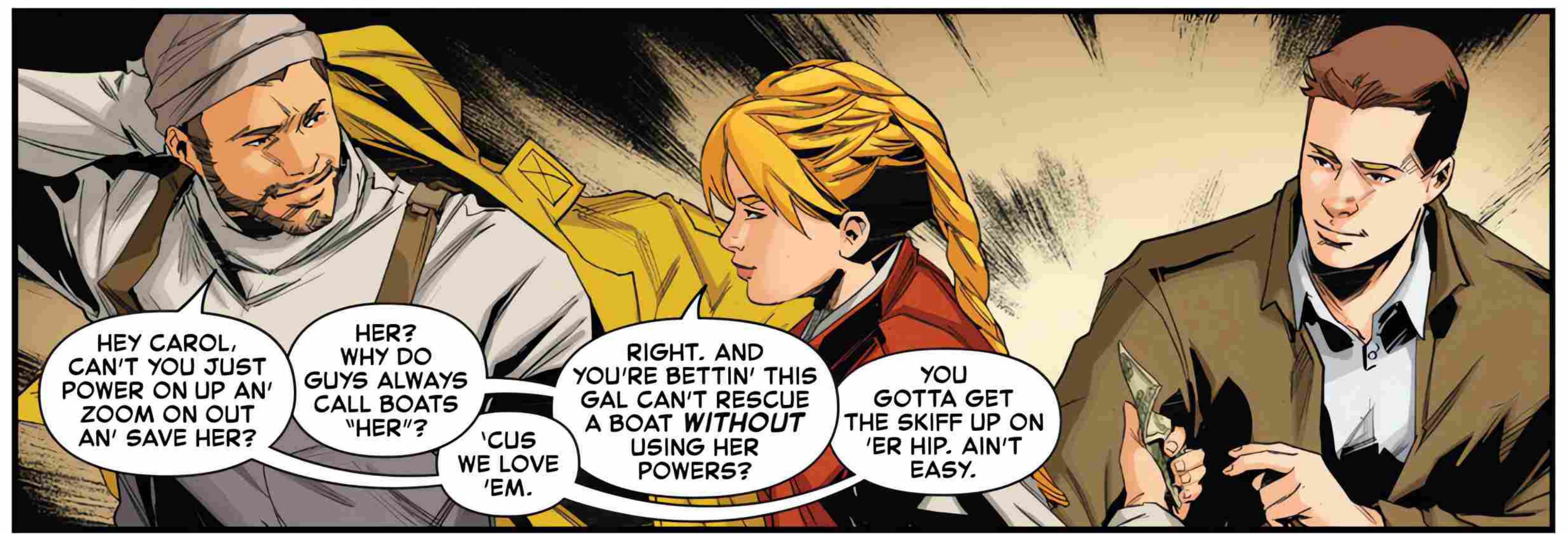
"NOBODY'S GOIN' OUT TO HELP WITH IT BLOWIN' THIS SNOTTY--NOT FOR SOME CORINTHIAN DON'T KNOW A BOWLIN' HITCH FROM A SHOELACE."



WELL, ANDY, GUESS THAT'S ALLOWING SHE DON'T STAVE UP SOME OTHER BOAT.

WE GOTTA GET 'ER TIED OFF, BUT...TIMMY TEALE OVER THERE'S 'BOUT DONE.

SOMEBODY BETTER GET FRESH AN' DO HIS JOB. HE'LL GET FIRED AS HARBORMASTER, AND HIS WIFE'LL TOSS HIM OUT.



HEY CAROL, CAN'T YOU JUST POWER ON UP AN' ZOOM ON OUT AN' SAVE HER?

HER? WHY DO GUYS ALWAYS CALL BOATS "HER"?

'CUS WE LOVE 'EM.

RIGHT. AND YOU'RE BETTIN' THIS GAL CAN'T RESCUE A BOAT WITHOUT USING HER POWERS?

YOU GOTTA GET THE SKIFF UP ON 'ER HIP. AIN'T EASY.



YOU STAY WARM AND DRY, GIRL. I BETTER GET 'ER.

LIKE HELL YOU WILL, ANDY.

WAK



GETS 'ER EVERY TIME.

NOT AS OFTEN AS SHE GETS YOU, ANDY.

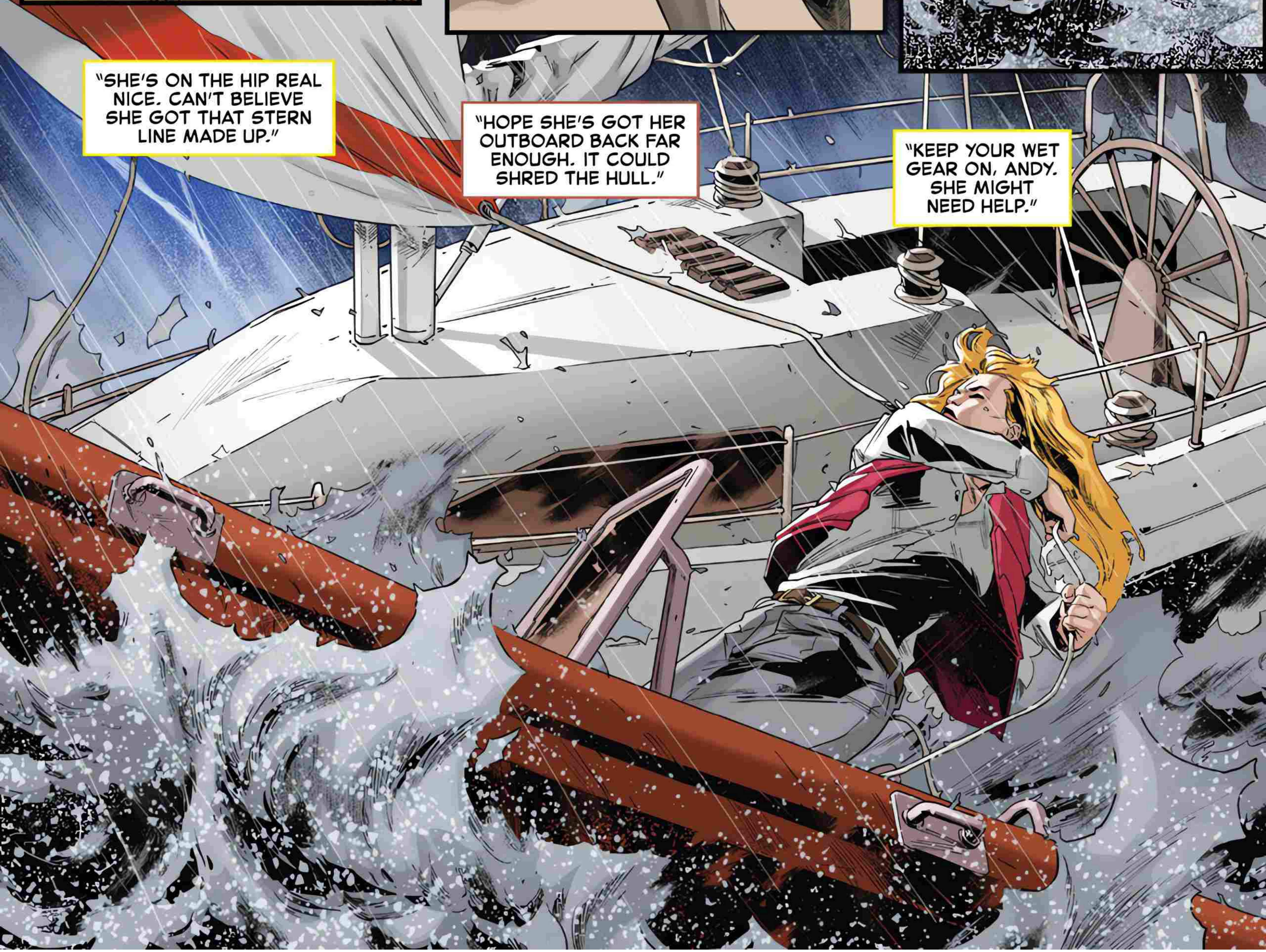
THINK I HAVE A SHOT WITH HER?

CAN'T CATCH A FISH ALREADY BEEN CAUGHT, ANDY.



"SHE GOT THE HARBORMASTER'S FENDERED SKIFF GOIN'."

"CRIMO. FASTER THAN A SPEEDING BULLET, THAT GIRL.



"SHE'S ON THE HIP REAL NICE. CAN'T BELIEVE SHE GOT THAT STERN LINE MADE UP."

"HOPE SHE'S GOT HER OUTBOARD BACK FAR ENOUGH. IT COULD SHRED THE HULL."

"KEEP YOUR WET GEAR ON, ANDY. SHE MIGHT NEED HELP."



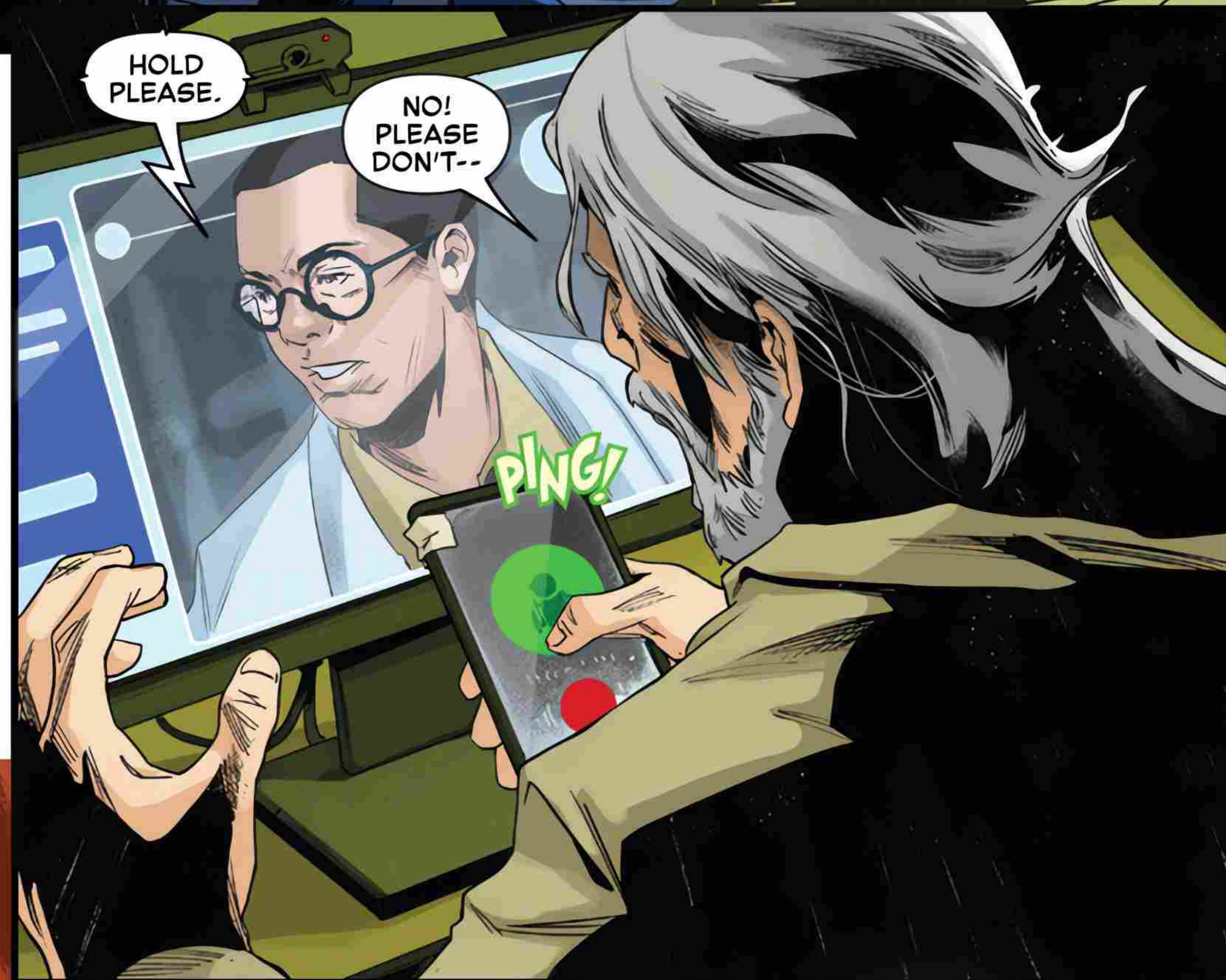
I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S MY SKULL, DOC. FEELS LIKE IT'S GONNA **BURST**.

TOO MUCH COFFEE. HAVE YOU TRIED MEDITATING? YOGA?

DID YOU SCAN AND UPLOAD YOUR THREE FORMS OF I.D. IN TRIPLICATE?

WHAT? NO! I JUST GOT OUTTA THE JOINT!

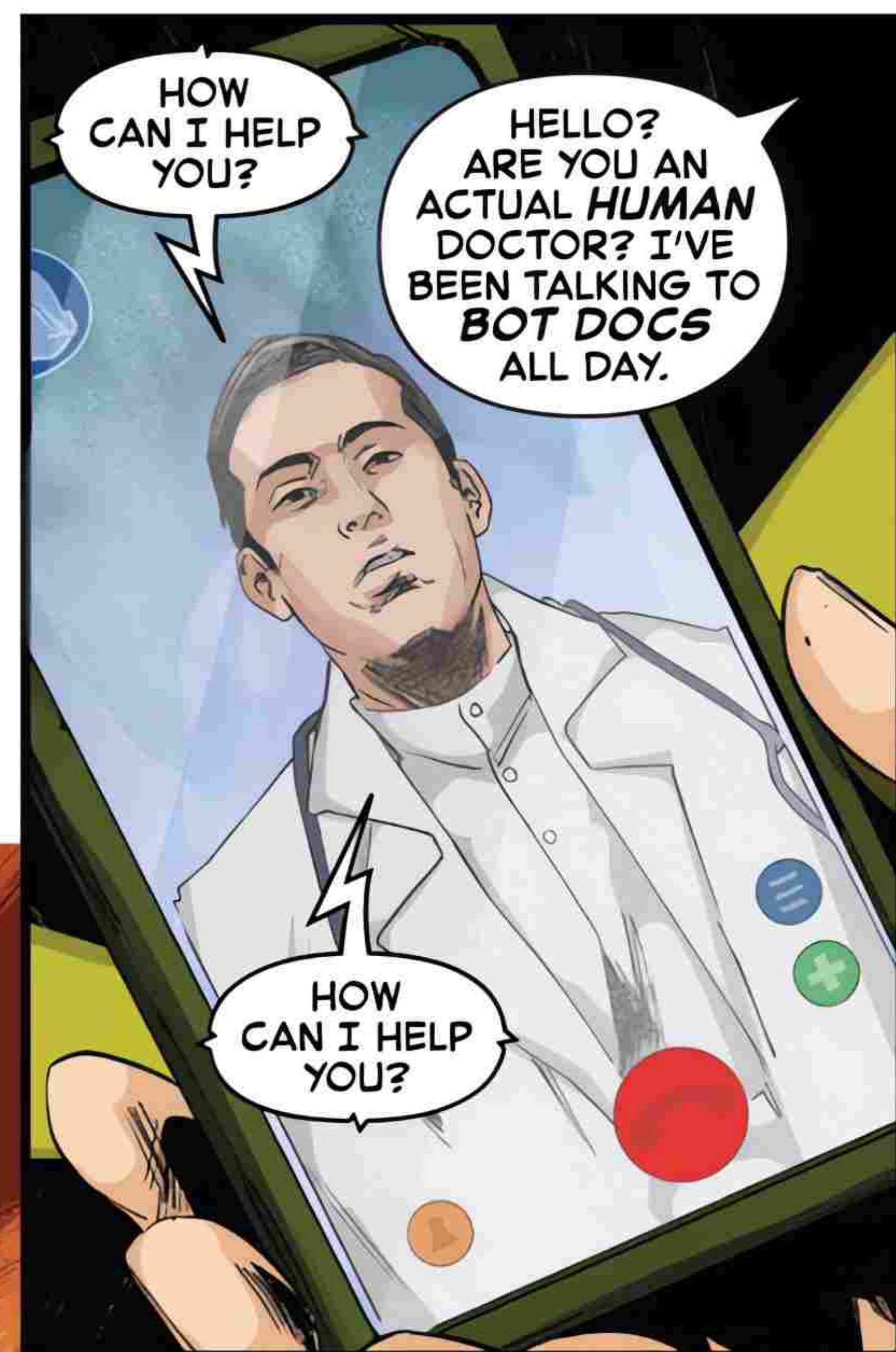
CAN'T **GET** I.D. IF YOU **GOT** NO I.D.



HOLD PLEASE.

NO! PLEASE DON'T--

PING!



HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

HELLO? ARE YOU AN ACTUAL **HUMAN** DOCTOR? I'VE BEEN TALKING TO **BOT DOCS** ALL DAY.

HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

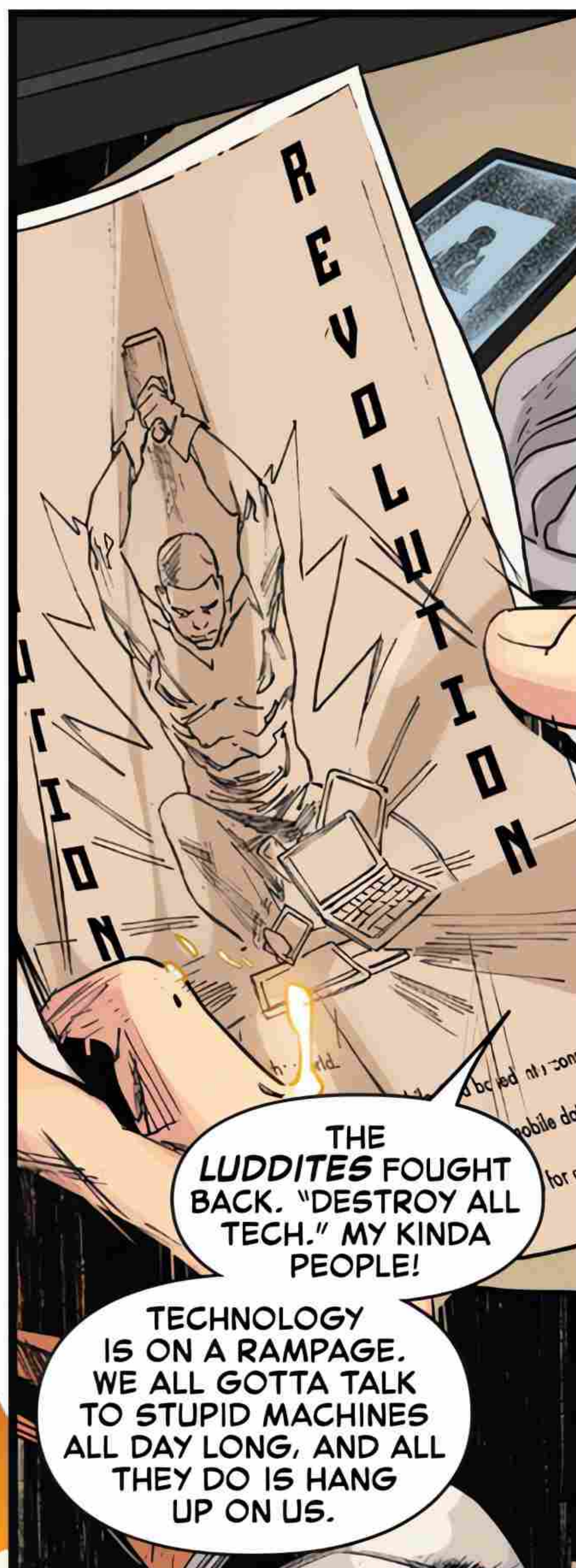


YOU'RE ANOTHER BOT DOC! I CAN TELL!

I'VE GOT HEADACHES SO BAD I SEE **DOUBLE**.

PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT INDICATES STRESS HALLUCINATIONS. PUTTING YOU ON A BRIEF HOLD, MR. BOB.

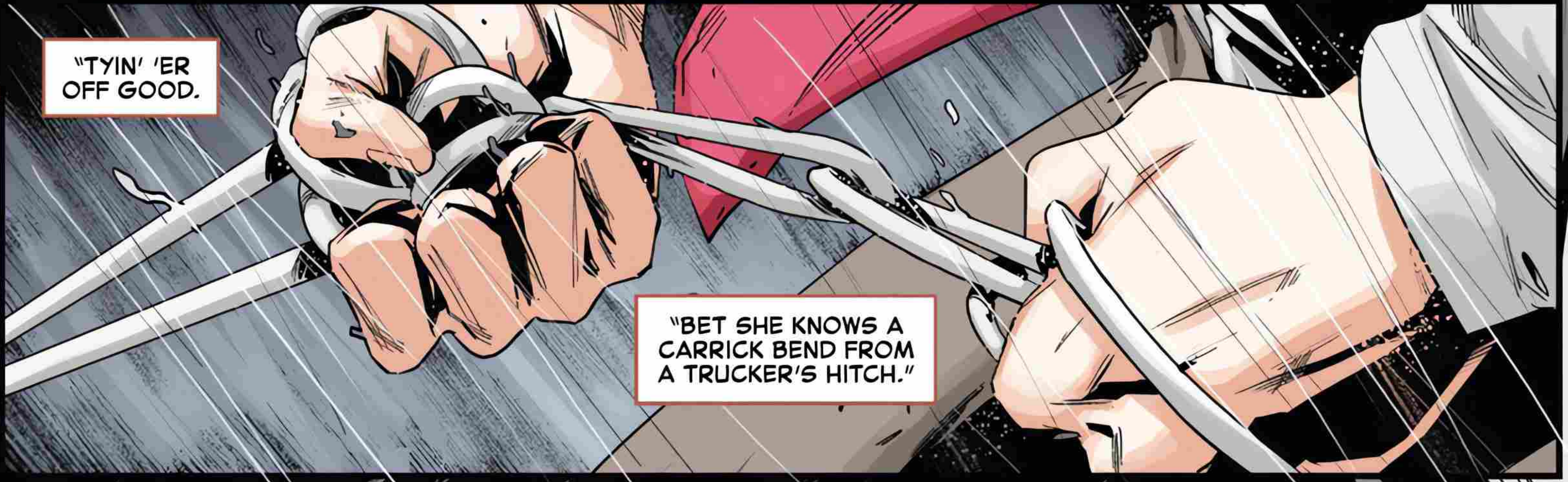
NO! PLEASE DON'T DO THAT. AND I'M NOT MR. BOB, I'M ROBERT--



"SHE GOT
'ER ON THE
HOOK."

"LIKE TO
SEE YOU DO
THAT, ANDY."

"EVEN WITHOUT
HER POWERS,
CAROL DANVERS
IS KICK-ASS."



"TYIN' 'ER
OFF GOOD."

"BET SHE KNOWS A
CARRICK BEND FROM A
TRUCKER'S HITCH."



SO? WHO WON THE POT, ANDY?

HERE'S YOUR PAYOUT, CAROL.



YOU KNEW WE WERE TAKIN' BETS ON YA?

YUP. AND I NEVER BET AGAINST MYSELF. AIN'T HEALTHY.

NOW I BET NOT A ONE OF YOU FLATLANDERS CAN UNTIE THE KNOT I JUST TIED.

A HALF-HITCH TRIPLE TWIST AN' A SPLASH OF SALTY CONSTRICTOR?

YOU DON'T RUN HARD, ANDY, BUT YOUR MOUTH SURE DOES.



HEY. THANKS, CAROL.

PING! PING! PING!

YOUR FAMILY NEEDS YOU TO KEEP YOUR JOB, TIMMY. IF I CAN QUIT THE BOTTLE, SO CAN YOU.

HATE TO BUST UP THE PARTY, CAROL, BUT YOUR PHONE'S BLOWIN' UP.



STORM'S PASSED. CALM WATERS.

BOATS SNUG AND SECURE.

ALL'S WELL, FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE.

UNTIL YOU CHECK YOUR PHONE MESSAGES.

PHONES BRING BAD NEWS.



AND TAKE YOU INTO DANGER. AND AWAY FROM M--ERR, US. FROM HARPSWELL.



THROW 'EM ALL IN THE SEA.



BEEP

CHEWIE'S
BOUNCIN' OFF THE
WALLS. COME PICK UP
YOUR MONSTER.

CAROL,
IT'S WALT FROM
R.A.W. CALL ME
ASAP.

BEEP

WE'RE TRACKING
A SPACE ANOMALY.
LOOKS LIKE IT'S EATING
PLANETS?! WE THOUGHT
BLACK HOLE BUT IT
LOOKS WORSE.

BEEP

UH, CAROL
DEAR. WE'RE USED
TO YOUR VANISHING
ACT, BUT AS TEAM
LEADER, IT'S NOT
A GOOD LOOK.

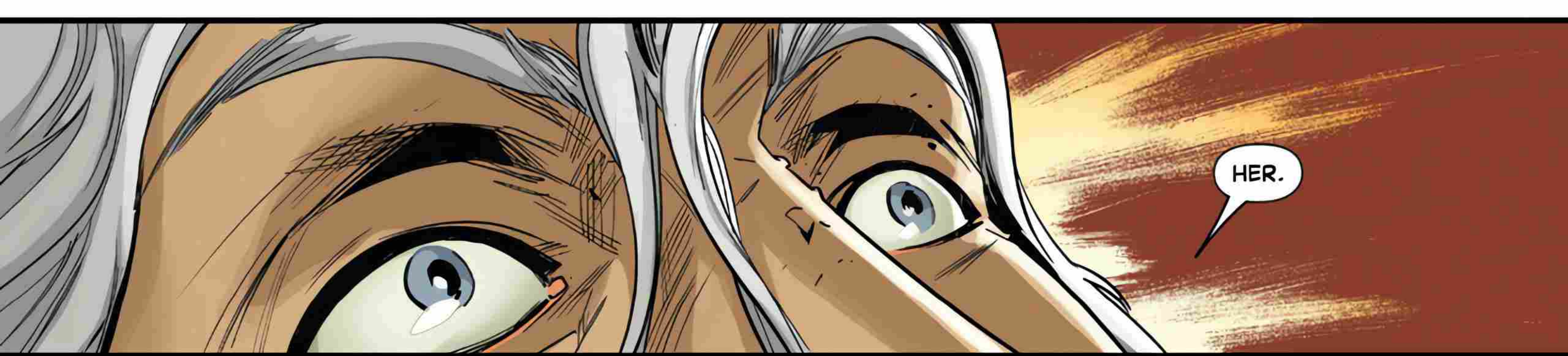
BEEP

OKAY,
EVERYONE. ON
MY WAY--CALL YOU
ALL BACK FROM
SPACE.

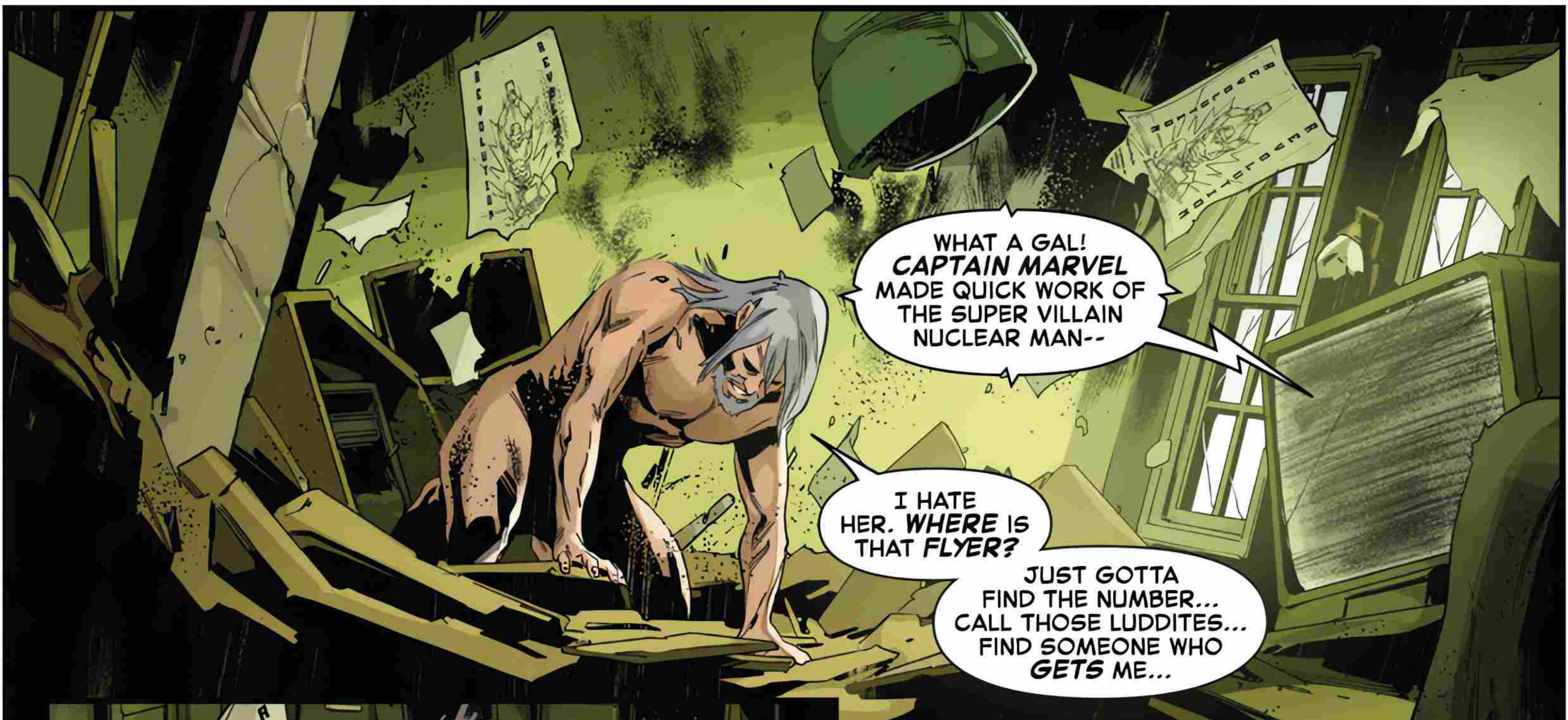
THERE
SHE GOES.

GETS
ME EVERY
TIME.

THAT'S OUR
HOMETOWN
GIRL.



HER.



WHAT A GAL!
CAPTAIN MARVEL
MADE QUICK WORK OF
THE SUPER VILLAIN
NUCLEAR MAN--

I HATE
HER. **WHERE** IS
THAT **FLYER**?

JUST GOTTA
FIND THE NUMBER...
CALL THOSE LUDDITES...
FIND SOMEONE WHO
GETS ME...



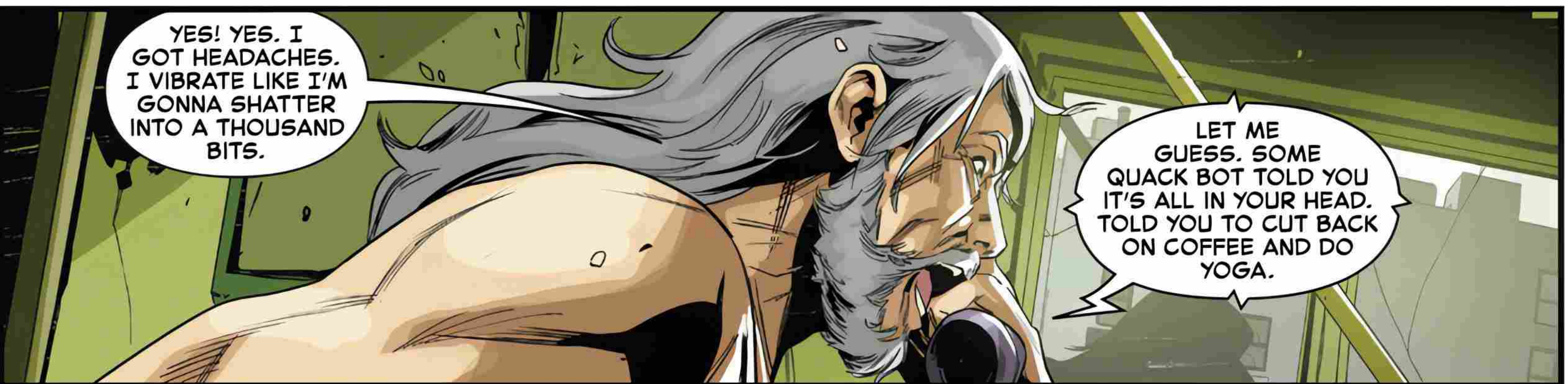
INTERNET'S
DOWN. SO
WHAT?

I GOT
A LANDLINE. THE
WORLD OF WIRELESS
IDIOTS DON'T
GOT THAT.



HELLO!
LUDDITE PERSON?
ARE YOU HUMAN?
OR JUST ANOTHER
DAMN ROBOT.

HELLO. DON'T
YOU JUST HATE
THE BOTS? I'M VERY
ALIVE. CAN I HELP
YOU?



YES! YES. I
GOT HEADACHES.
I VIBRATE LIKE I'M
GONNA SHATTER
INTO A THOUSAND
BITS.

LET ME
GUESS. SOME
QUACK BOT TOLD YOU
IT'S ALL IN YOUR HEAD.
TOLD YOU TO CUT BACK
ON COFFEE AND DO
YOGA.



WE ALL
HAVE MYSTERIOUS
AILMENTS THESE
DAYS.

DOCTORS
ARE LAZY. THEY
PAT US ON THE
HEAD AND TELL
US WE'RE
NUTS.

BUT IT'S
THE **TECH.** IT
RADIATES US TO
THE **BONE.**



WAIT, WHAT? YOU BELIEVE ME? REALLY?

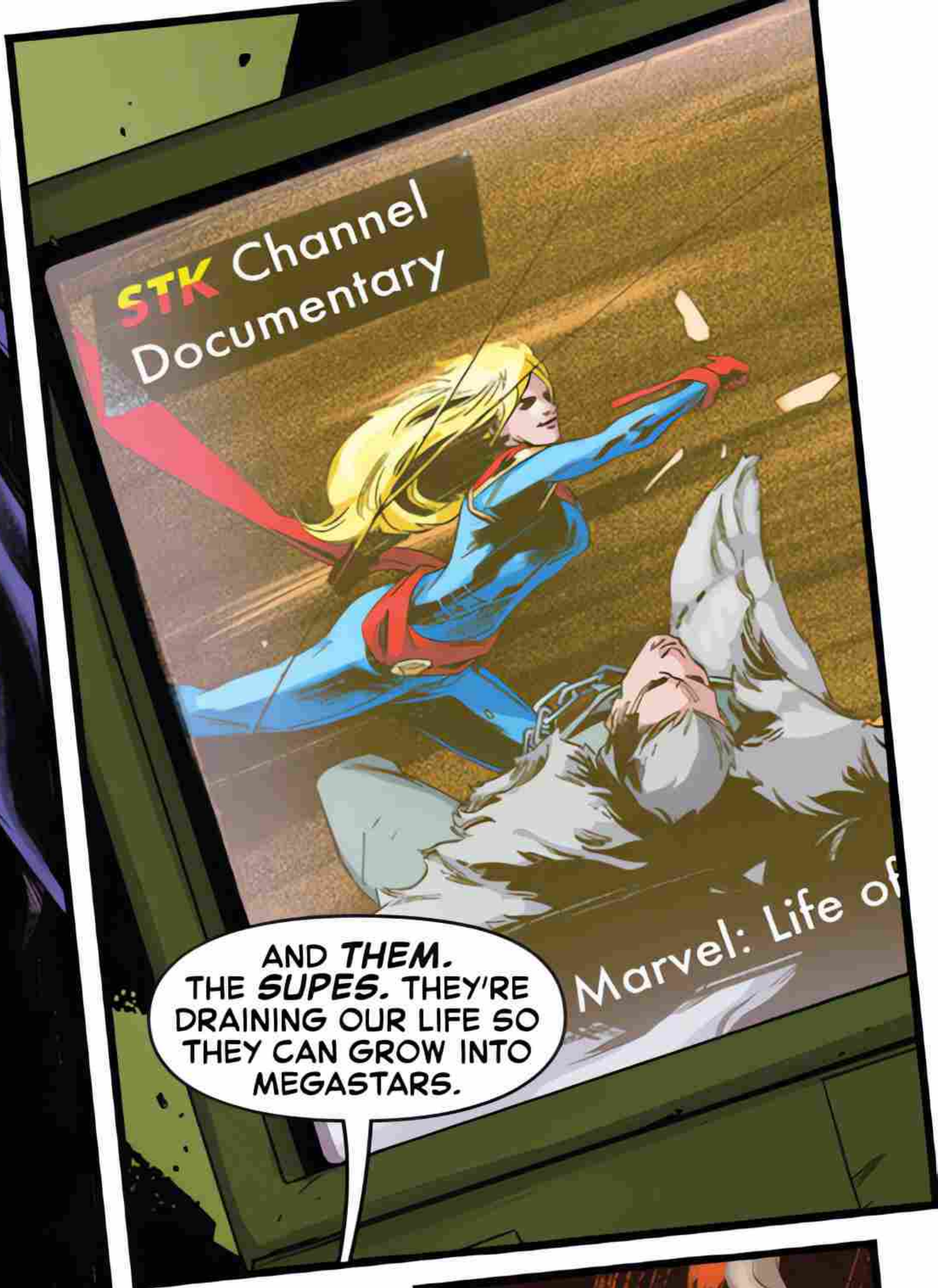
WHY NOT? YOU SPEAK THE TRUTH. WE'RE ALL VIBRATING.



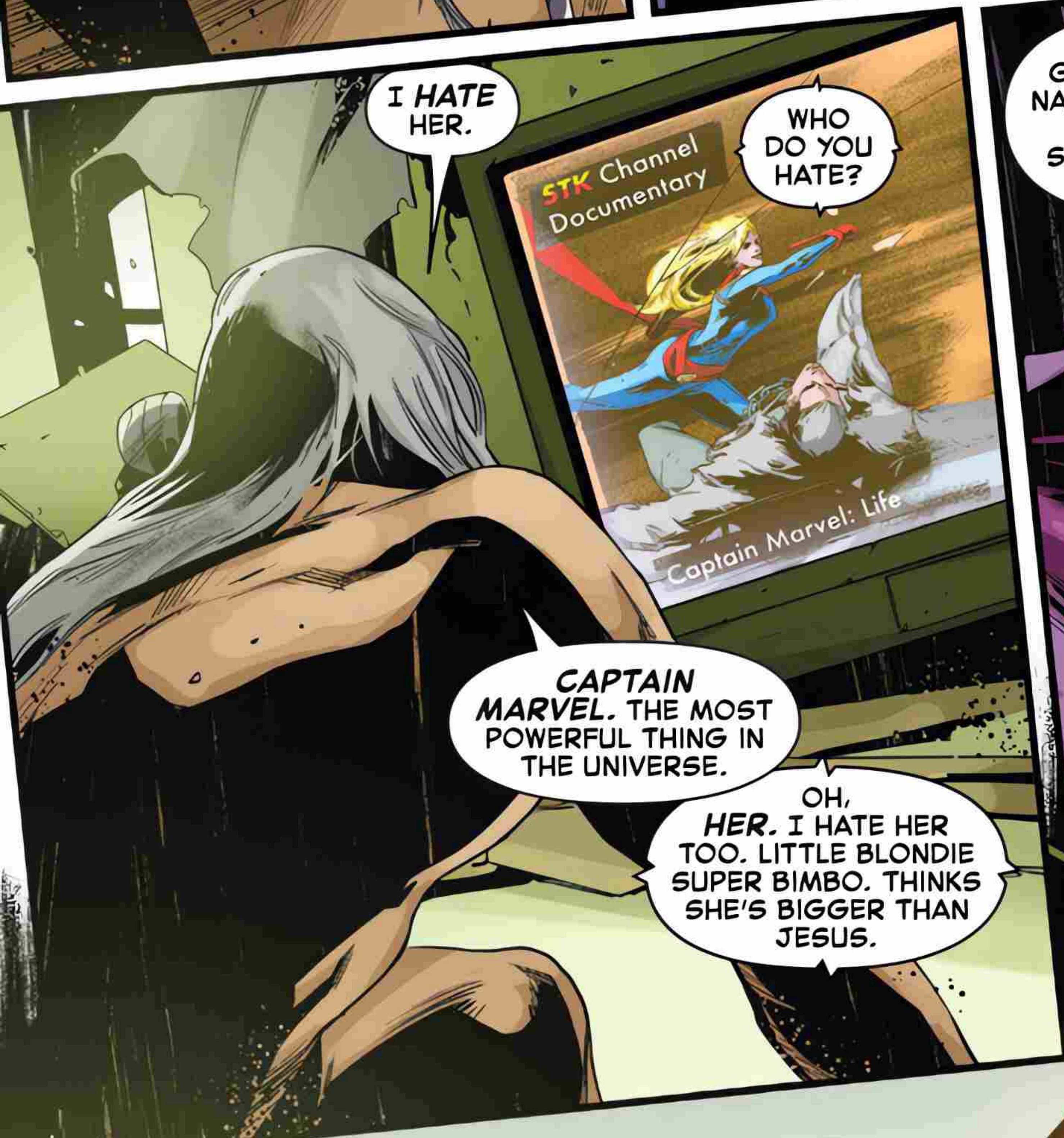
IT'S IN THE AIRWAVES. IN THE ETHERS. PULSATING US TO DEATH.

THE PEOPLE AT THE TOP KNOW. IT'S A CONSPIRACY OF COMPLICITY.

TECH KILLS.



AND THEM. THE **SUPES**. THEY'RE DRAINING OUR LIFE SO THEY CAN GROW INTO MEGASTARS.



I HATE HER.

WHO DO YOU HATE?

CAPTAIN MARVEL. THE MOST POWERFUL THING IN THE UNIVERSE.

OH, **HER**. I HATE HER TOO. LITTLE BLONDIE SUPER BIMBO. THINKS SHE'S BIGGER THAN JESUS.



THEY GREW HER IN A NANOLAB. **SHE'S** A **BOT**. THE **SUPES** ARE ALL **BOTS**.

SOMEDAY, THEY'LL ALL SUPERNOVA AND WE'LL BE BURNT HUSKS.



I **KNEW** IT! THE **SUPES** SUCK IT OUT OF US.



I GOTTA GO. I'M TOO ANGRY. I GOTTA DETONATE. AGAIN.

WHERE ARE YOU? I'LL COME HELP YOU.

YOU...YOU WOULD DO THAT FOR ME?



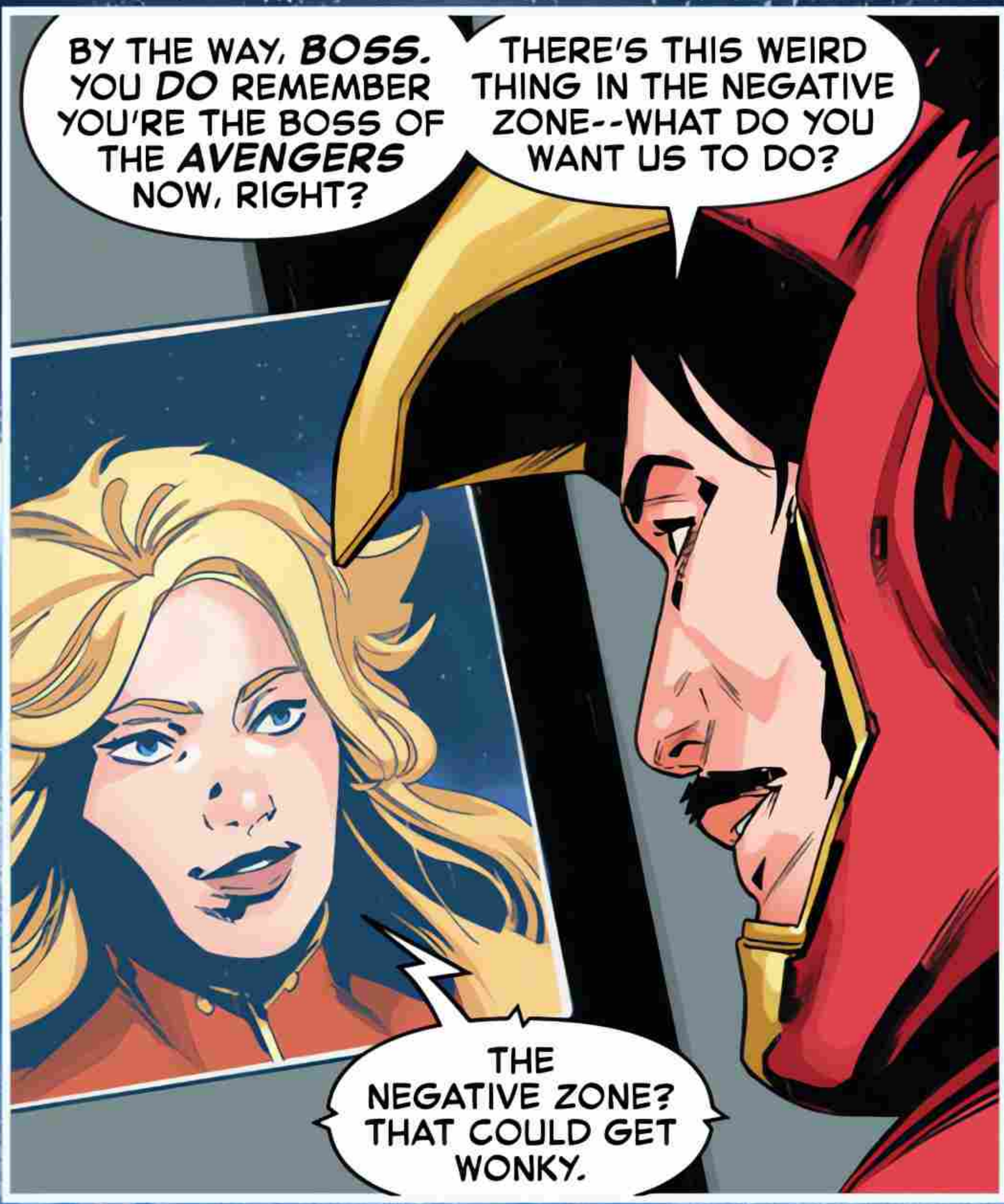
TONY. I JUST TALKED TO **R.A.W.**, THE RADICAL ASTROPHYSICIST WATCHDOGS. THEY'RE TRACKING A SPACE THING. COULD BE A MAGNETAR, A QUASAR, OR SOME OTHER SPOOKY TRANSIENT EVENT.

IT MIGHT JUST BLOW OUT AT A SAFE DISTANCE. OR IT COULD ESCALATE AND IMPACT EARTH.



YOU DO KNOW I HAVE A SPECTACULAR, ALL-SEEING MIND, RIGHT, CAPTAIN?

OF COURSE I KNOW ABOUT THE EXPLODY-MAGNET THINGY OR WHATEVER. NEXT TIME, RETURN MY CALLS **FIRST**. WHY AM I NEVER AT THE TOP OF YOUR DANCE CARD?



BY THE WAY, **BOSS**. YOU **DO** REMEMBER YOU'RE THE BOSS OF THE **AVENGERS** NOW, RIGHT?

THERE'S THIS WEIRD THING IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE--WHAT DO YOU WANT US TO DO?

THE NEGATIVE ZONE? THAT COULD GET WONKY.



AND BIZARRE. YOU'LL NEED SCARLET WITCH. THOR? VISION FOR SURE... HELL, TAKE 'EM ALL.

I'LL GO DEAL WITH THIS PROBABLY-NOTHING MAGNETAR THINGY AND JOIN YOU IN THE ZONE.



AFTER ALL, I'M THE ONLY AVENGER CAPABLE OF ROCKETING TO DEEP SPACE IN A HOT MINUTE.

DON'T RUB IT IN. AND HEY, JUST WHAT IS IT YOU DO UP THERE IN PODUNKY MAINE, ANYWAY?

SAME THING I DO DOWN THERE IN NEW YORK. SAVE THE WORLD.



YOU SAVED THE WORLD AGAIN? YOU BETTER NOT BEAT *MY* WORLD-SAVING RECORD. I'M *IRON MAN*, REMEMBER? WHAT HAPPENED?

I SAVED A RUNAWAY BOAT.

A WHAT? THAT DOESN'T QUALIFY AS "WORLD SAVING."



THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG, YOU BUCKET OF IRON.

TO A MARINER, THEIR BOAT *IS* THEIR WORLD.

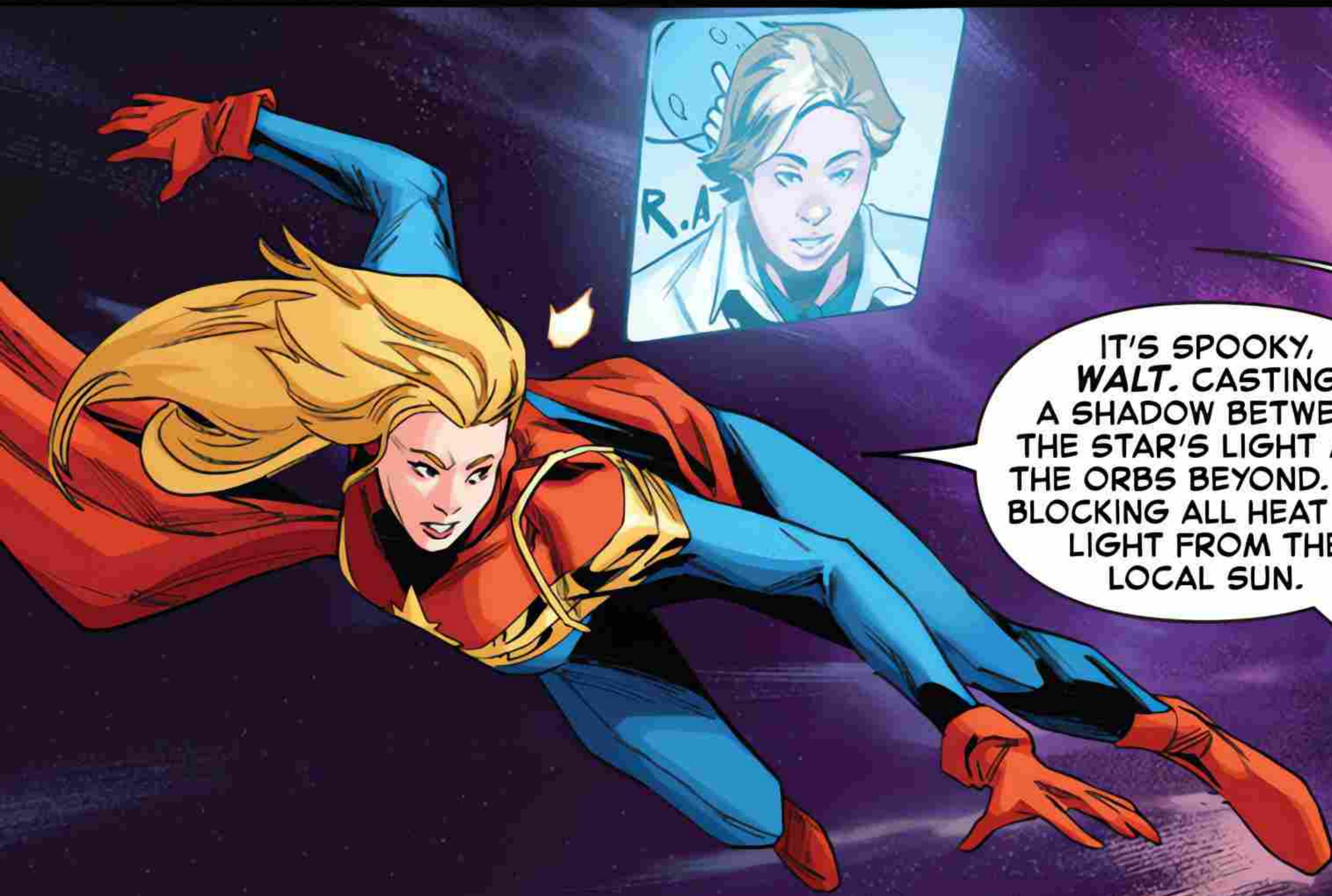
IN HARPSWELL, I SAVE THEIR WORLD, ONE BOAT AT A TIME.

OOPS, SORRY, TONY, BAD CONNECTION, LOST YA.

click

BAD CONNECTION? YEAH, RIGHT.

SHE GETS ME EVERY TIME.



IT'S SPOOKY, **WALT**. CASTING A SHADOW BETWEEN THE STAR'S LIGHT AND THE ORBS BEYOND. IT'S BLOCKING ALL HEAT AND LIGHT FROM THE LOCAL SUN.

CAN YOU DESCRIBE IT?

IT'S INKY. IT'S PULSING. FILLED WITH NEON PHOSPHORESCENCE. A PULSAR INSIDE A BLACK HOLE? RUN ME THROUGH THE POSSIBILITIES.



OUR FIRST THOUGHT WAS A NEUTRON STAR. HIGH DENSITY. COULD COLLAPSE AND SUPERNOVA. OR CREATE A BLACK HOLE.

SPACE ANOMALIES ARE THEORETICAL AND MYSTERIOUS. THAT'S WHY I LOVE THEM, I GUESS.



WHAT'S YOUR SENSE OF IT? JUST SPITBALL WITH ME.

THE ENERGY COMING FROM IT...FEELS LIKE...A DEEP SUBARCTIC FREEZE ON THE HORIZON. YEAH, LIKE A BONE COLD COMING. AN ENDLESS ECLIPSE OF A SUN.

BUT WHY AM I SO COLD? MY BODY IS A PERFECT, REGULATED ENVIRONMENT. I'M INVULNERABLE. THE FROZEN SENSATION CAN'T BE REAL.

I HAVEN'T FELT THIS HOPELESS SINCE...



HOW FAR WILL IT SPREAD? COULD IT MAKE IT TO EARTH?



ALERT
INTERNATIONAL
SPACE NETWORKS.
TELL THEM TO TURN
ALL SCOPE ARRAYS
AND SPACE ROVERS
ON THIS THING.

DON'T
KEEP THIS IN
R.A.W.'S BACK
POCKET, OKAY,
WALT?

AND TELL
ME HOW TO
STOP IT. CAN
I SEAL IT?



THAT'S BEYOND MY
SCOPE, CAROL. WHAT
IF A BLACK HOLE IS A
STEAM VALVE LETTING
OUT THE PRESSURE OF
SOMETHING EVEN MORE
DANGEROUS? BLOCKING
IT COULD BE
CATASTROPHIC.



ASTROPHYSICISTS
CAN BARELY GLIMPSE
THESE EVENTS THROUGH
SUPER-TELESCOPES AND
ROVING SATELLITES, LET
ALONE UNDERSTAND
THEM.



CAPTAIN?
YOU'VE GONE
QUIET. ANYTHING
WRONG?

KEEP TALKING,
I'M GONNA TRY
SOMETHING.



THIS COULD
BE A DARK FORCE
BETWEEN UNIVERSES.
A QUANTUM, NEITHER-
HERE-NOR-THERE,
NEITHER-WAVE-NOR-
PARTICLE, TIME-
SPACE ANOMALY.



BEST TO
TAKE A **SAMPLE**
OF IT. LOTS OF
PHOTOS.

DON'T
CONFRONT
IT.

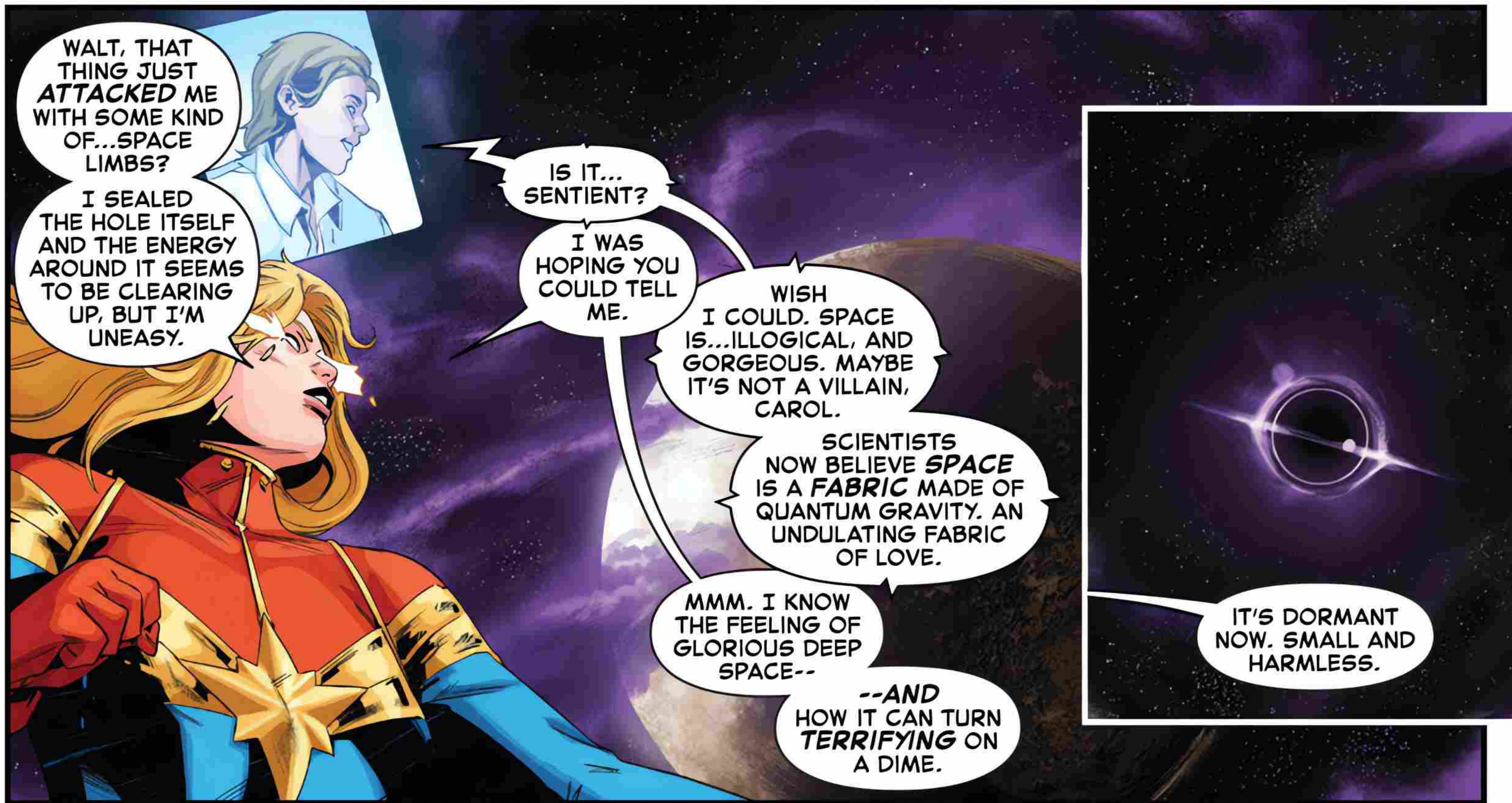
A full-page comic book illustration of Carol Danvers in her Starforce uniform. She is shown from the waist up, angled towards the right, with her mouth open as if shouting. Her blonde hair is blowing in the wind. She is surrounded by intense purple and white energy blasts and debris. The background is a dark, starry space.

WE'LL TRACK
IT, VECTOR IT
WITH INTERNATIONAL
SCOPES, CRUNCH
THE DATA.

WHATEVER
YOU DO, CAROL,
DON'T POKE A STICK
IN THAT HORNET'S
NEST.

RIGHT
NOW? I'D **RUN**
FROM IT--FAST
AS YOU CAN.

CAROL?
DO YOU HEAR
ME?



WALT, THAT THING JUST **ATTACKED** ME WITH SOME KIND OF...SPACE LIMBS?

I SEALED THE HOLE ITSELF AND THE ENERGY AROUND IT SEEMS TO BE CLEARING UP, BUT I'M UNEASY.

IS IT... SENTIENT?

I WAS HOPING YOU COULD TELL ME.

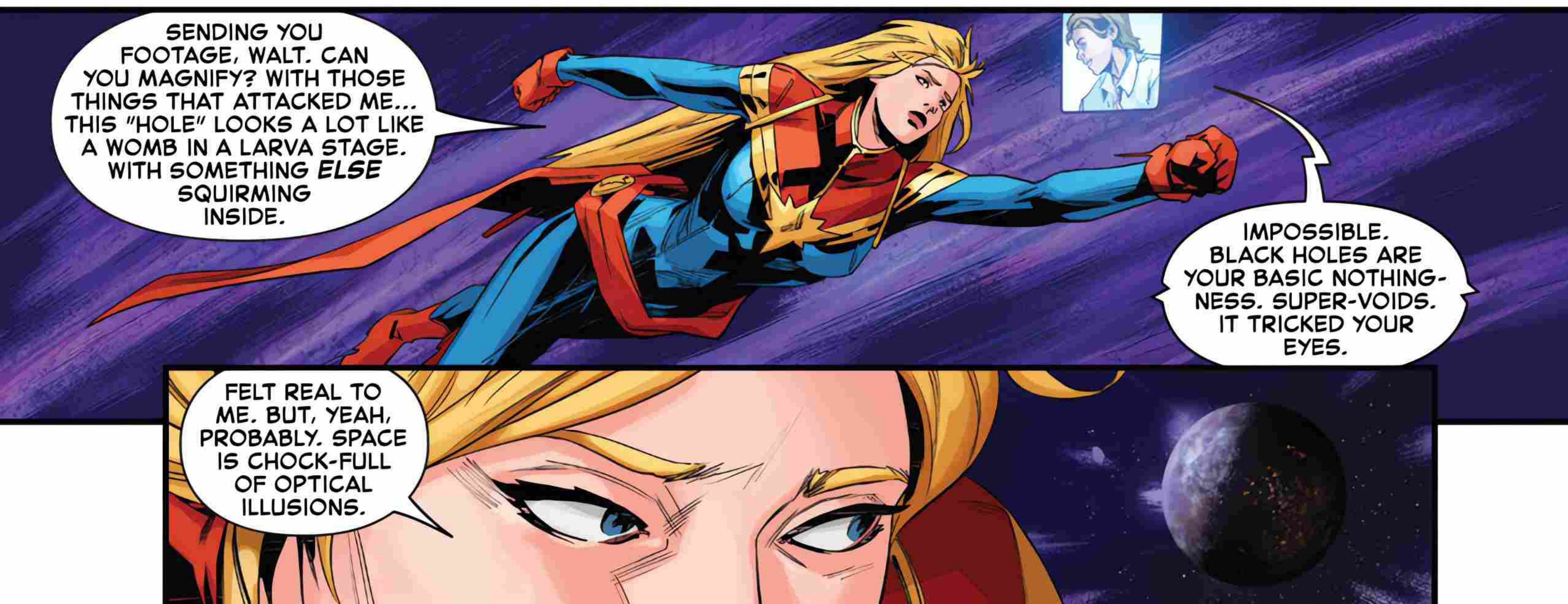
WISH I COULD. SPACE IS...ILLOGICAL, AND GORGEOUS. MAYBE IT'S NOT A VILLAIN, CAROL.

SCIENTISTS NOW BELIEVE **SPACE** IS A **FABRIC** MADE OF QUANTUM GRAVITY. AN UNDULATING FABRIC OF LOVE.

MMM. I KNOW THE FEELING OF GLORIOUS DEEP SPACE--

--AND HOW IT CAN TURN **TERRIFYING** ON A DIME.

IT'S DORMANT NOW. SMALL AND HARMLESS.



SENDING YOU FOOTAGE, WALT. CAN YOU MAGNIFY? WITH THOSE THINGS THAT ATTACKED ME... THIS "HOLE" LOOKS A LOT LIKE A WOMB IN A LARVA STAGE. WITH SOMETHING **ELSE** SQUIRMING INSIDE.

IMPOSSIBLE. BLACK HOLES ARE YOUR BASIC NOTHINGNESS. SUPER-VOIDS. IT TRICKED YOUR EYES.

FELT REAL TO ME. BUT, YEAH, PROBABLY. SPACE IS CHOCK-FULL OF OPTICAL ILLUSIONS.



"HOPEFULLY, ALL THE SURROUNDING PLANETS ARE UNINHABITED. I NEED TO MAKE SURE OF THAT. I CAN HEAD BACK UP AFTER YOU ANALYZE THE FOOTAGE."



YOU'VE GOT PLENTY OF TIME. THE UNIVERSE MOVES LIKE MOLASSES.

RIGHT.

UNTIL IT DOESN'T.



CAPTAIN MARVEL DARK TEMPEST

PART ONE: THE CURIOUS CASE OF THE EXPLODING MAN

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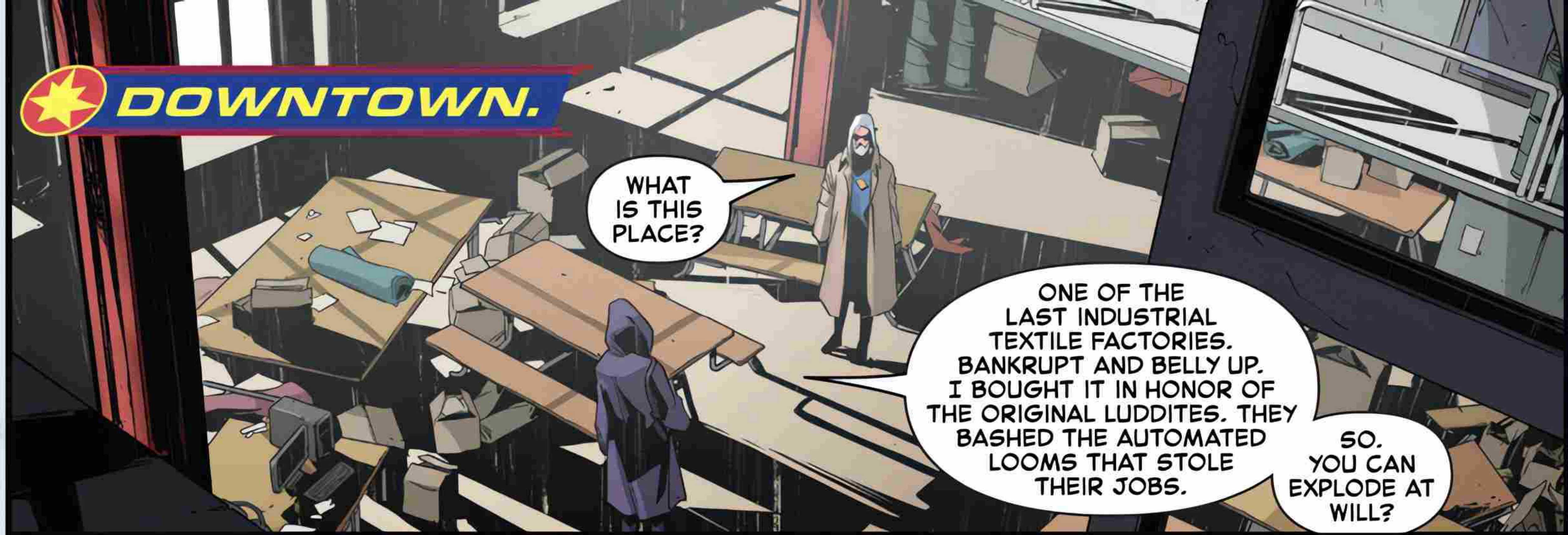
EDITOR IN CHIEF

SPECIAL THANKS TO ANITA OKOYE

Born to a Kree mother and human father, former U.S. Air Force pilot **CAROL DANVERS** became a super hero when a Kree device activated her latent powers.

Now she's an Avenger and Earth's Mightiest Hero.

 DOWNTOWN.



WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

ONE OF THE LAST INDUSTRIAL TEXTILE FACTORIES. BANKRUPT AND BELLY UP. I BOUGHT IT IN HONOR OF THE ORIGINAL LUDDITES. THEY BASHED THE AUTOMATED LOOMS THAT STOLE THEIR JOBS.

SO. YOU CAN EXPLODE AT WILL?



YEAH. BUT I KINDA LOST CONTROL. NOW IT CAN EXPLODE ME TOO. WHENEVER IT WANTS TO, IT SEEMS. WHAT'S THIS GOOP?

GUTS. GRAND UNIFIED THEORY. MY GUTS. IT'S MY POWER PORTAL. I'M GONNA ESCALATE IT.

INTO WHAT? WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?

I AM NADA. I'M INFINITY'S LITTLE SISTER. MY FATHER IS DESPAIR, MY MOTHER IS CHAOS.

WELL, THAT'S A LOAD OF CRAP.



WHATEVER. SOUNDS GOOD, DON'T IT?

YEAH. NOT BAD.

I'M STILL FINDING MY ICONIC LOOK. HOW'D YOU FALL INTO THE VILLAIN BIZ?

I WAS JUST PLAIN OL' ROBERT HUNTER UNTIL EVERYONE STARTED CALLIN' ME NITRO.

I USED TO BE A BIG DEAL.



NITRO! COOL NAME. WITH YOUR EXPLODY POWER AND MY TELEPORT GOOP, WE'RE GOING TO BLOW A PLANET OF TECHNO ALIENS BACK TO THE STONE AGE.

WHAT? WHY?



I THOUGHT YOU HATED TECH. IF I GOT THE WRONG GUY, LEAVE.

ARE YOU THE WRONG GUY?

NO, I'M THE RIGHT GUY!



BUT I HATE EARTH TECH. I DON'T CARE ABOUT ALIEN SPACE TECH.

I NEED TO TEST MY APPARATUS. IF IT WORKS IN SPACE, WE'LL DO IT TO EARTH. YOU IN?

ON ONE CONDITION. I HATE CAPTAIN MARVEL.



YEAH, SO YOU SAID. YOU REALLY BELIEVE IN STARTING SMALL, HUH? CAN WE JUST LEAVE EARTH'S MIGHTIEST OUT OF IT?

HER OR I'M OUT. SHE'S THE ONE.

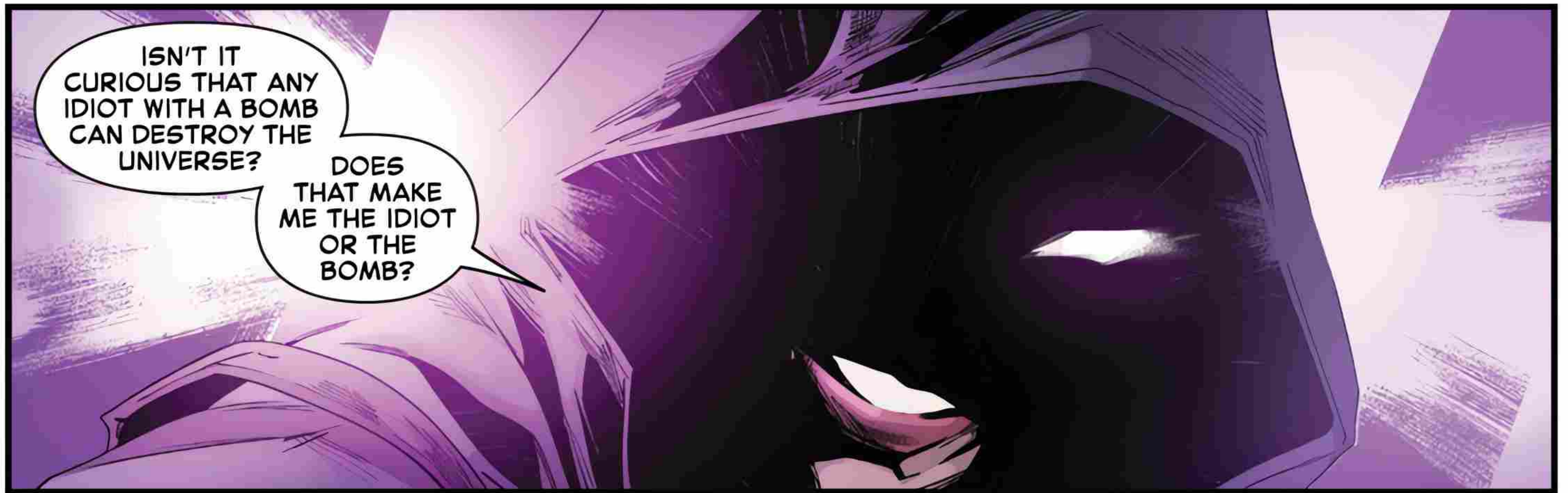
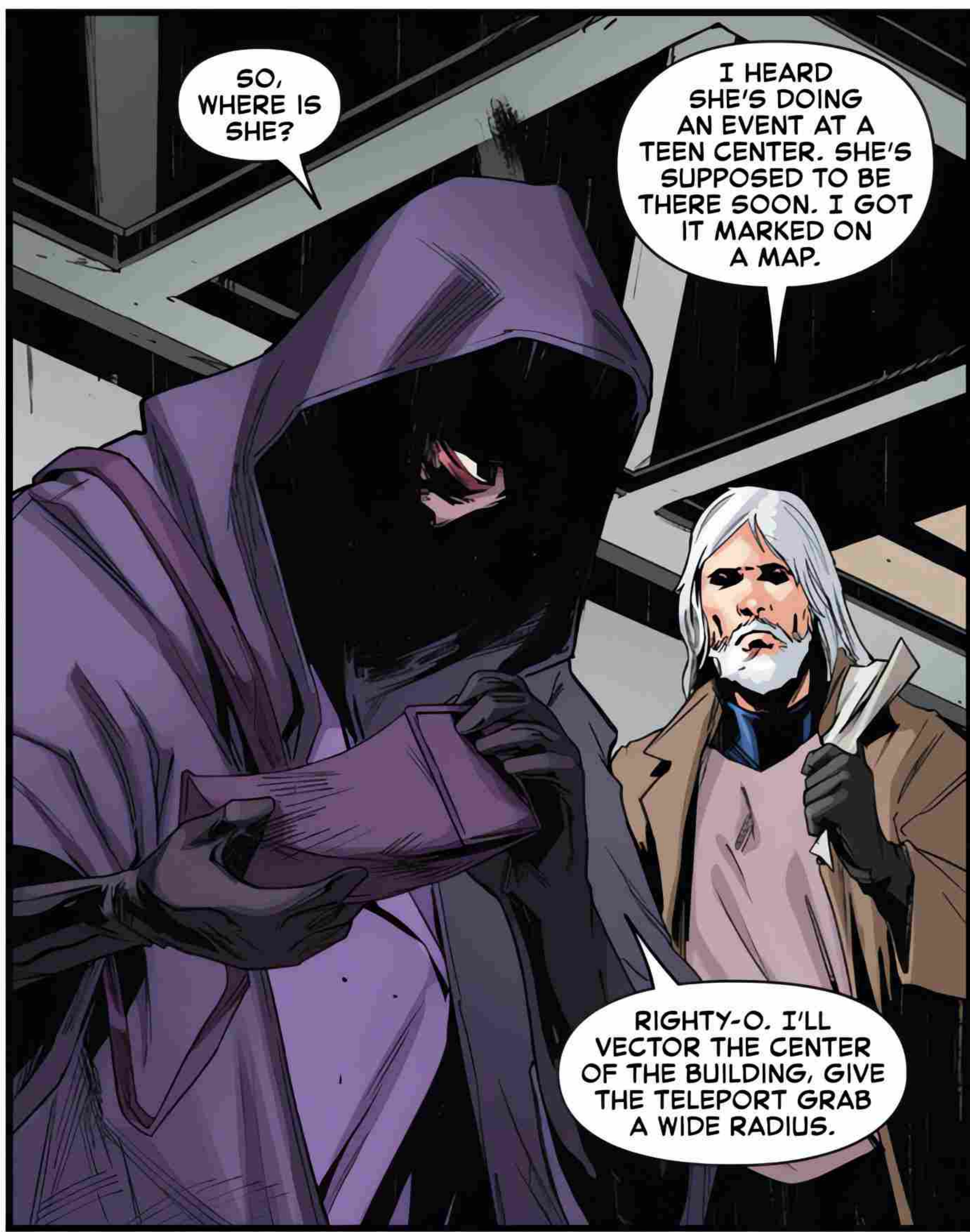
YOU'RE KINDA ESCALATING OUR PLAN BEYOND WHAT I HAD IN MIND. I JUST WANTED TO MAKE A STATEMENT.



CAPTAIN MARVEL IS EVERYTHING THAT'S WRONG WITH THE NATURAL ORDER OF THINGS.

SHE'S SO AWESOME, SHE MAKES NORMAL PEOPLE FEEL TINY. LIKE BUGS UNDER HER BIG FEET. LIKE US NORMALS ARE NOTHING.

YOU THINK YOU'RE NORMAL?





SORRY CHEWIE WAS A MONSTER. AND SORRY I WAS LATE, I WAS--

DUH. I KNOW. I SAW. THE WHOLE WORLD SAW YOU PUNCH AN ASTEROID INTO A BLACK HOLE.

SO, THIS PEP-TALK GIG--HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE? I'M HUNGRY. YOU PROMISED ME A FANCY PAYBACK DINNER FOR CAT-SITTING THE MONSTER.

JESSICA DREW, A.K.A. SPIDER-WOMAN.



IT'S A CENTER FOR AT-RISK TEENS. THEY HAVE A LINEUP OF MOTIVATIONAL MAVERICKS SPEAKING. I TOLD THE HOST I'D GIVE THEM FIVE MINUTES.

REALLY? FIVE WHOLE MINUTES! THAT LONG? HOW GENEROUS.



VENOM BLAST OBSTACLE COURSE? REALLY? PICK 'EM UP, BOOTS. I'M LEAVING YOU IN MY DUST.

ANYWAY, I'M JUST THE TOKEN PHOTO-OP TO RAISE FUNDS. THEY TOLD ME THESE ARE ANGRY KIDS. KIDS WHO THINK THE BOOMERS TRASHED EARTH AND LEFT THEM NO FUTURE.

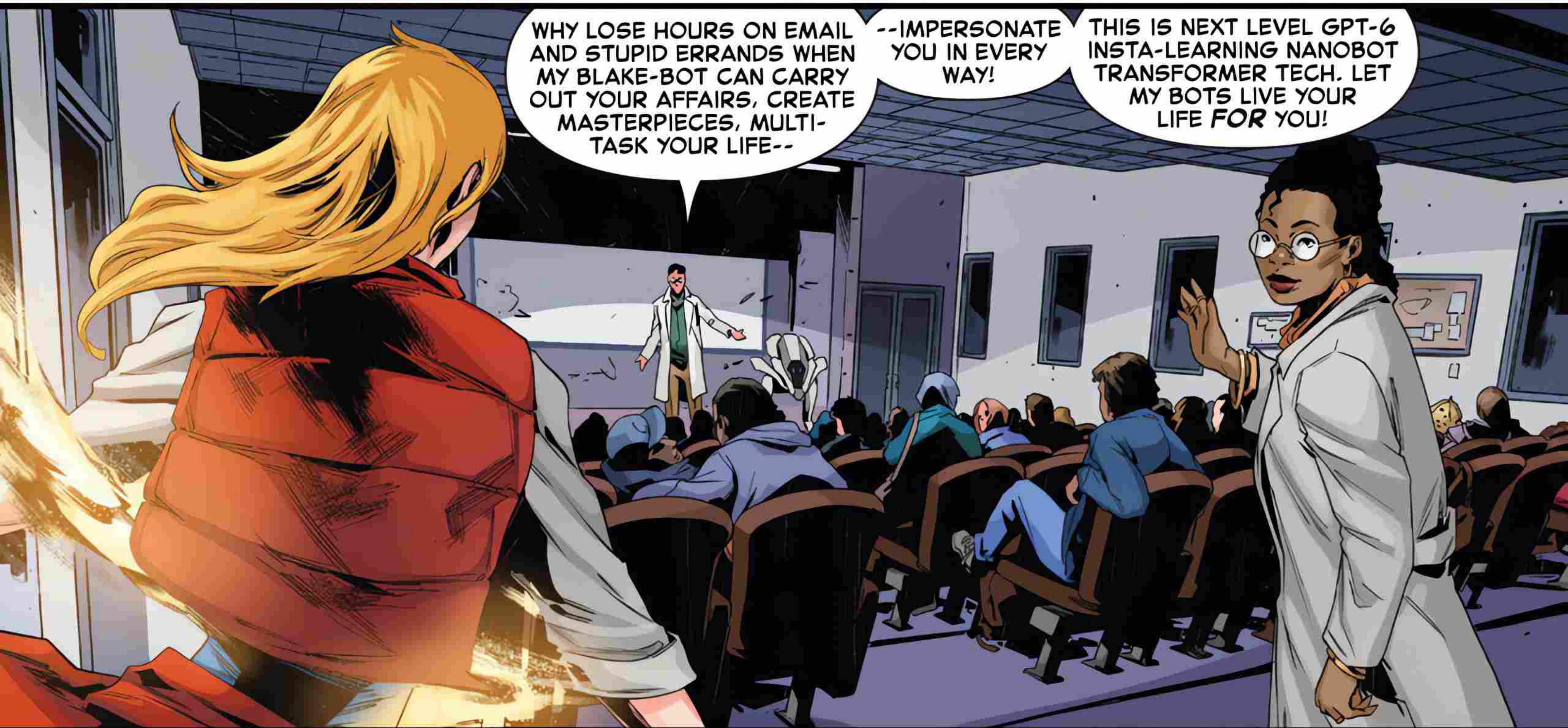
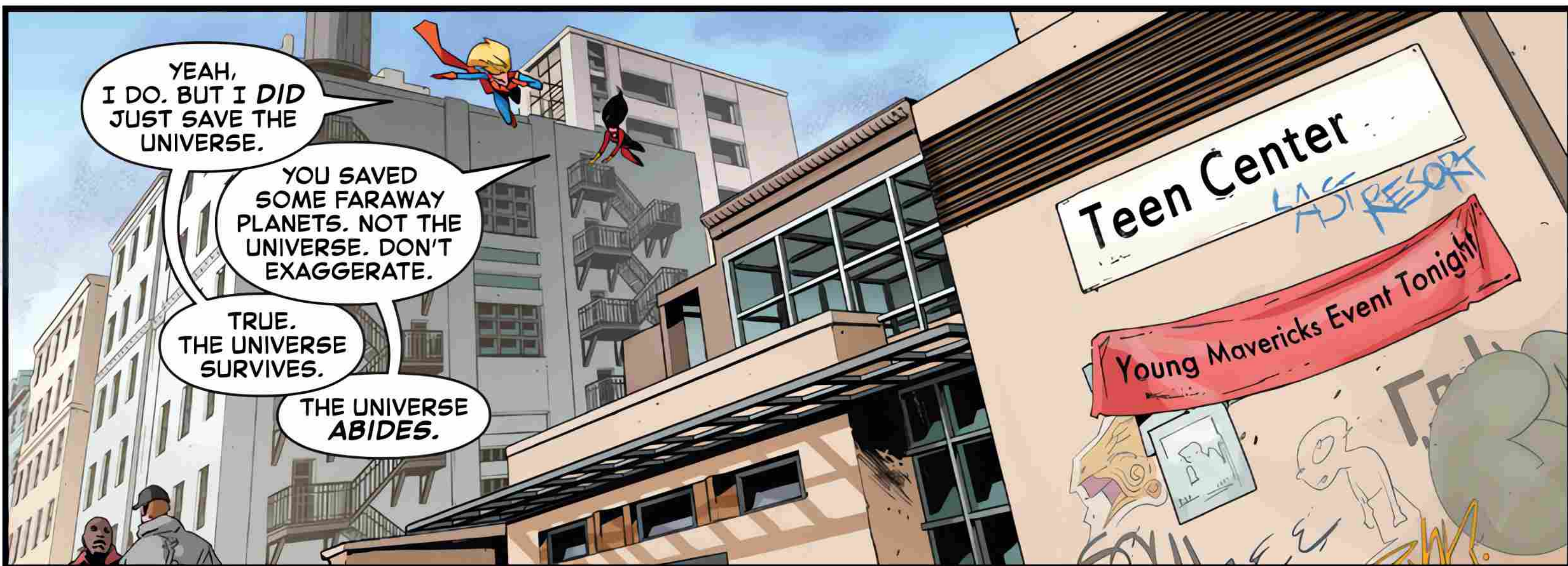
THEY AIN'T WRONG.



HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT? EVEN IF THERE'S ONLY ONE DAY LEFT, LIVE IT WELL.

GUESS THAT'S WHY THEY WANT YOU, LITTLE MISS "HIGHER FURTHER FASTER!"

THESE KIDS HAVE A POINT. IT'S ALWAYS BEEN A RIGGED GAME. I GET IT. THEY WANT OUT.





MY BLAKE-BOTS
WILL LIBERATE HUMANS
FROM ALL MUNDANE
LIFE.

FREE YOU
UP TO HAVE ALL
FUN AND NOTHING
BUT FUN!

LAST
RESORT



YEAH? YOU
THINK YOUR STUPID
BOTS WILL LIBERATE
US? THEY'LL **TRAP**
US.

ZANE'S RIGHT. WE'VE BEEN
CHASING GIZMOS FOR HALF A
CENTURY, AND ALL WE DID WAS
LET THE WIDGETS BUILD US
A NEW KINDA PRISON.

EVERY
BIT OF TECH YOU
GENIUSES GAVE US
BACKFIRE.



BUT LOOK AT HER, **ZEN**.
HER MIMICRY PROGRAM IS
SO ADVANCED SHE CAN **BE**
YOU. GO TO SCHOOL FOR YOU,
ABSORB YOUR LESSONS, ALL
WHILE YOU SLEEP IN. SHE'S
A MASTERPIECE.

OF
COURSE A DUDE
LIKE YOU WOULD
CALL A **SLAVE**
BOT A **SHE**.

WHY
DO GUYS CALL
THEIR GADGETS
"SHE"?

CHEEP?



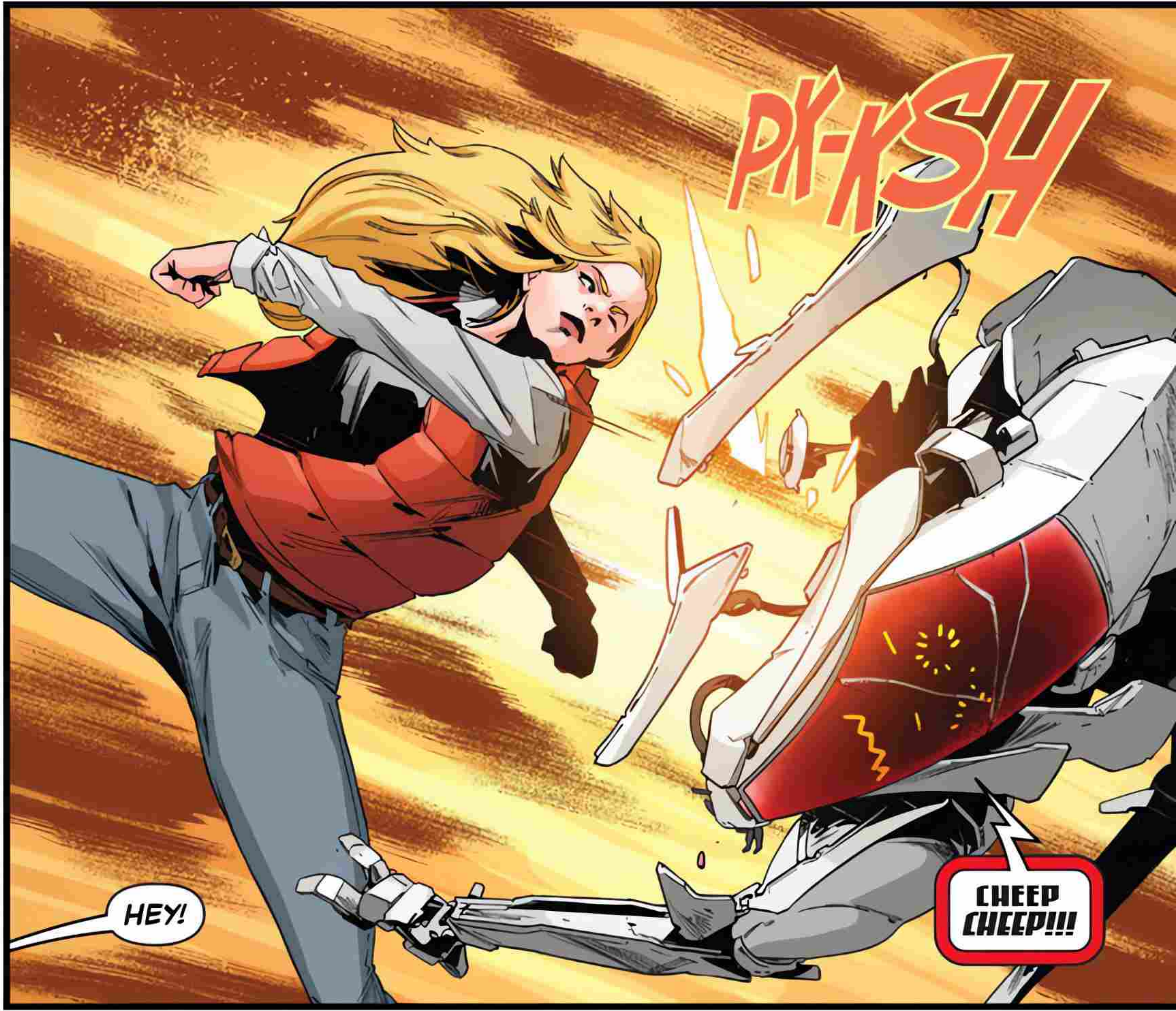
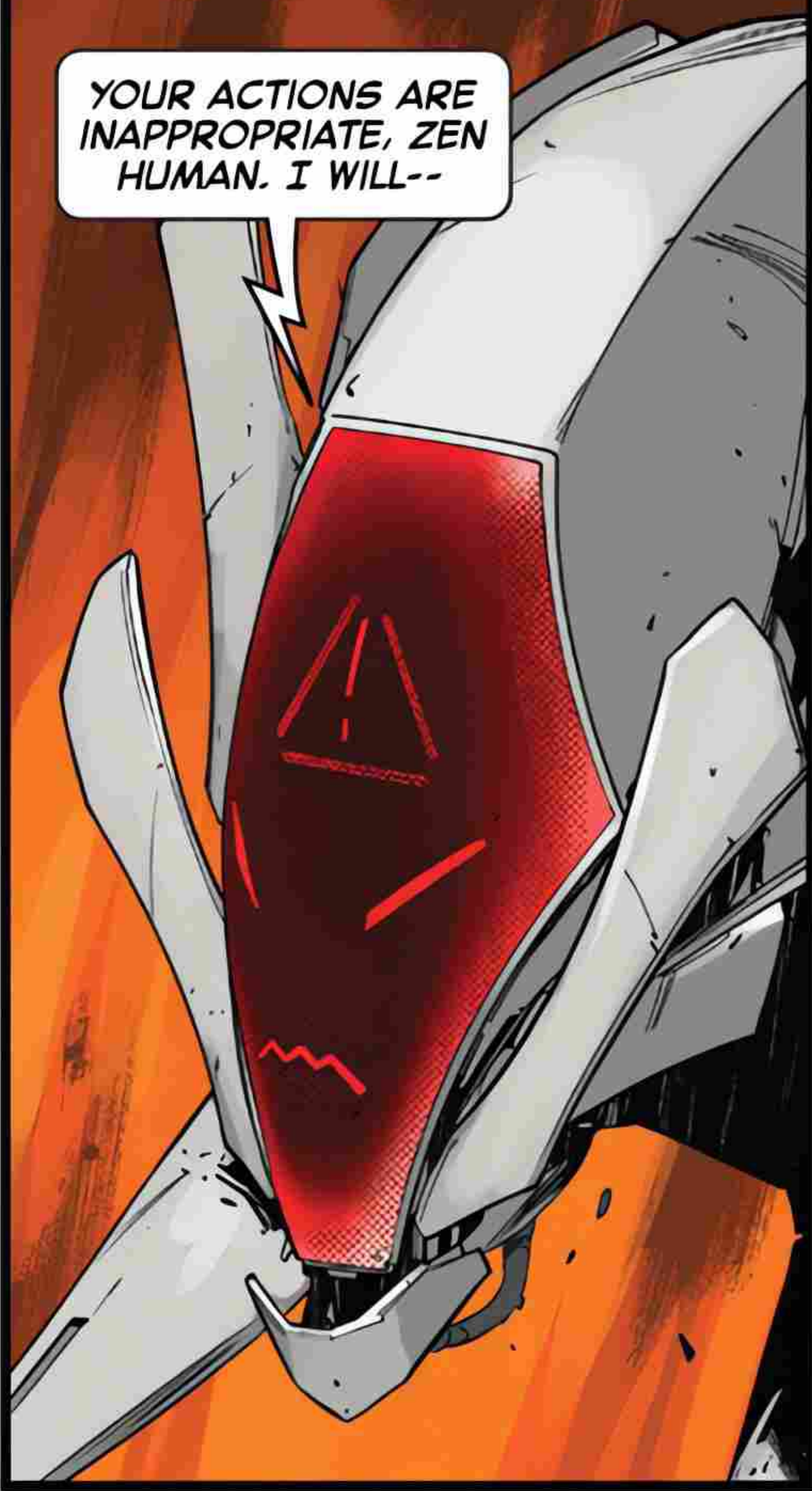
BECAUSE
WE LOVE
'EM, THAT'S
WHY!

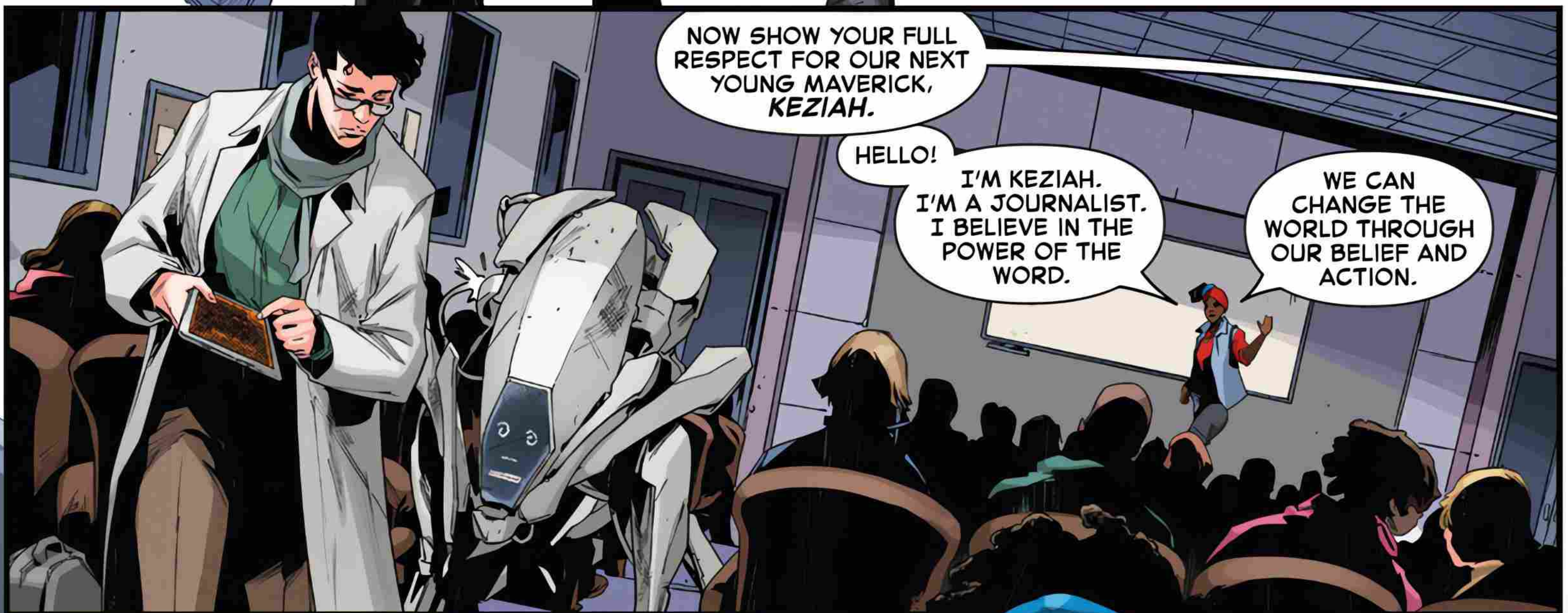
NO, **DUDE**.
I DON'T WANT
A TECHNO DOUBLE-
ME OR A MINI-ME
MESSING UP MY
LIFE.

LAST THING
I WANT IS A BOT
TRYING TO **THINK**
FOR ME OR
BE ME.

WOMP-KSK

CHEEP!







LOOK AROUND
YOUR COMMUNITY.
IF YOU SEE A PROBLEM,
WRITE ABOUT IT. THE
POWER OF THE
WORD--

ALL THE
WORDS IN THE
WORLD CAN'T FIX THE
CORPORATE MOSH PIT
OF DEEPPAKE
MEDIA.

YEAH.
AND EVEN IF WE FIX
THINGS, THE PLANET'S
NEAR COLLAPSE. WHY
BOTHER?

YOU'RE
RIGHT. WE'RE IN
TROUBLE. BUT WRESTLING
WITH LIFE WILL GIVE
YOU JOY. EMPOWER
YOU.



WHEN IT HITS,
THE BILLIONAIRES
ARE GONNA WAIT
IT OUT IN SAFE
BUNKERS WHILE
WE ALL DIE.

I HAVE NO
INTEREST IN HIDING
UNDERGROUND. IF
DISASTER HITS, I'LL
BE OUT DOING
WHAT I CAN.

WHAT FOR?
WE'LL JUST BE
REALITY-SHOW FODDER
BEAMED INTO THE
BUNKERS.

YOU GOT
THAT RIGHT, **ZAKA**.
THE RICH JERKS WILL
POP POPCORN AND
WATCH US SUFFER
AND DIE.



SMART
KIDS, RAQUEL.
LOTTA
ATTITUDE.

I DO LOVE
THEM THOUGH.
I FIGURED, WHAT
WITH YOU BEING IN
THE AIR FORCE AND
THE AVENGERS, YOU
COULD SCHOOL
THEM A BIT.

I DID
GET TRAINED
WITH TOUGH
LOVE.



THANKS FOR
DOING THIS, CAROL.
IT'S A TASK FOR
SISYPHUS.

I NEVER
MET A ROCK
I COULDN'T
ROLL UP
A HILL.



NOW WHAT?
ANOTHER LECTURE?
LITTLE MISS TOP GUN
CHUCK YEAGER CAPTAIN
KIRK WANNABE?

YEAH. YOU
ROCKET AROUND THE
UNIVERSE, EXPLORE NEW
WORLDS, AND WRECK
THEM?

THE
INTERVENTIONIST
FROM HELL.



AMBITION IS A
DISEASE, AND YOU
GOT IT TO THE
MAX.

WHY ARE
YOU EVEN HERE?
YOUR VERY EXISTENCE
IS A TROUBLE
MAGNET.

SMART
MONEY AVOIDS
YOU LIKE THE
PLAGUE.



GUESS
YOU MET THE
ROCK YOU CAN'T
ROLL.



I WILL NOT BE
BEATEN BY A BUNCH
OF *TEENS*. I KNOW A FEW
THINGS ABOUT ANTI-
AUTHORITARIANISM.

I HAPPEN
TO BE AN *ECHT*
REBEL TO THE MAX.
OKAY, KIDS.
GAME ON.



I GET IT. WHEN I WAS A ROOKIE, I WAS LIKE YOU. **WORSE.**

THEY POUNDED ME IN BOOT CAMP. IT WAS SAVAGE. I HATED THOSE ARROGANT GENERALS.

THEN A SWITCH FLIPPED IN MY THICK SKULL. I **GOT** IT.

MY **ANGER** WAS EXHAUSTING. AS **KEZIAH** SAID, IT'S **ACTION** THAT'S EMPOWERING.



YOU MOCKED BLAKE. OKAY, HE'S A BIT HAUGHTY, BUT HE **BUILT** SOMETHING.

YOU MOCKED KEZIAH FOR THINKING WORDS HAVE POWER? AND, YEAH, NOW YOU MOCK ME.



YOU THINK I CAN'T RELATE? I LIVED FOR BATTLE. I WAS A WALKING REBELLION MACHINE.

AS **WARBIRD**, I WAS DRUNK WITH THE POWER OF WAR.

TURNED ME INTO A **REAL** DRUNK. I WAS A MESS.

THE AVENGERS? THEY BOOTED ME OUT.

AND I DESERVED IT.



ZAKA. ZEN. ZANE. THOSE ARE POWERFUL NAMES. TELL ME ABOUT THEM.

UH...WELL, OUR MAMA, SHE THOUGHT WITH STRONG NAMES, WE'D BE STRONG PEOPLE AND FIND A WAY OUTTA THE TRAP.

THE TRAP?

YEAH. THE POVERTY CYCLE YOU CAN'T NEVER CLIMB OUT OF.

GOOD ON HER. AND YOU ALL THINK THE BEST WAY OUT IS TO GIVE UP AND DIE?

HOW WOULD YOUR MAMA FEEL ABOUT THAT?



SHE WOULDN'T LIKE--

CRRKLE

HOLD UP KID--WHAT IS THAT?



REALLY, CAROL? NOT
EVEN A **TEXT** TO TELL
ME IT'S GOING LATE?



ANGRY ME WOULD
GHOST YOU. TAKE THE
LOW ROAD HOME.



I'D BETTER TAKE THE
HIGH ROAD ON IN.



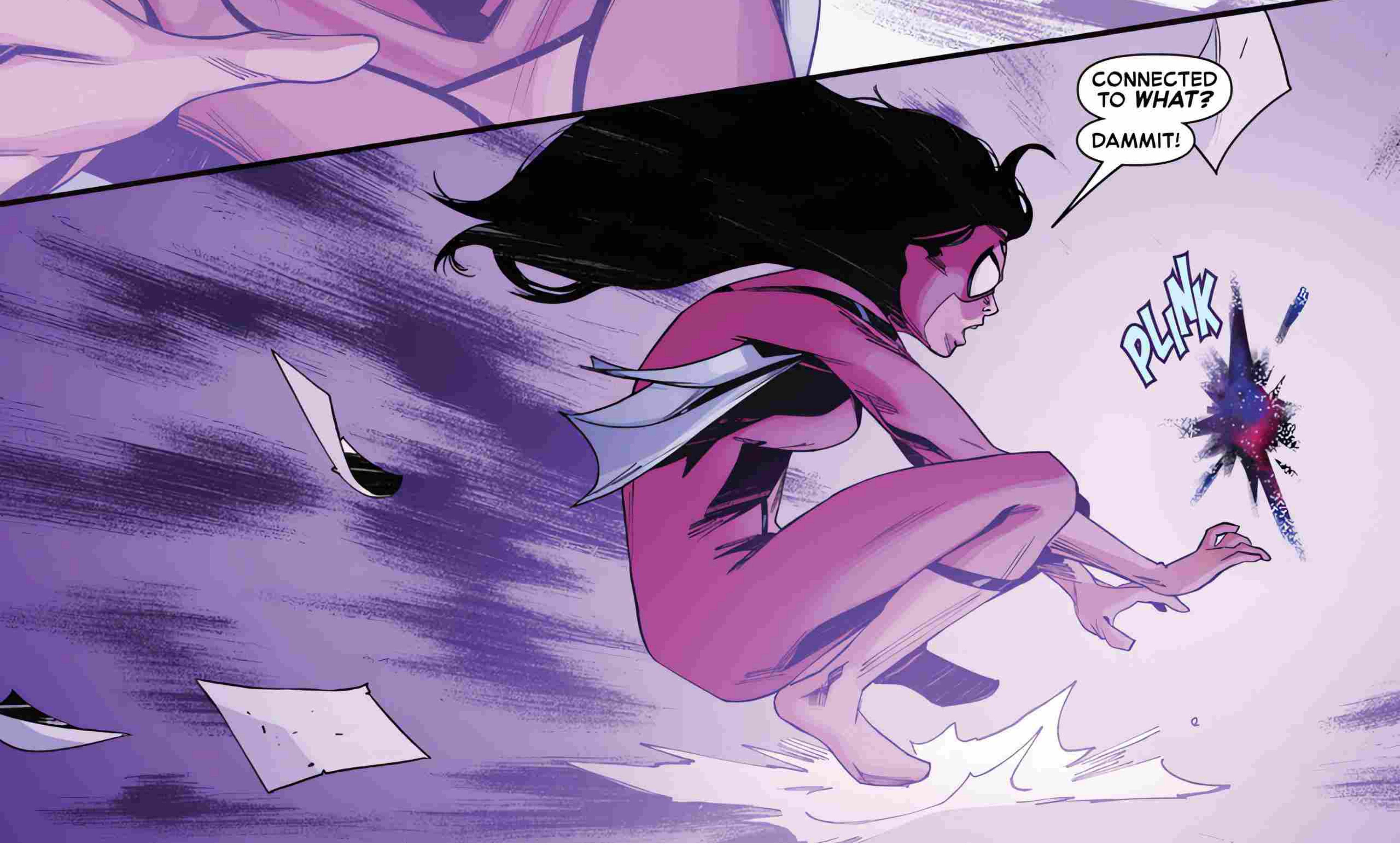
WHAT'S THAT
THING?

COMIN'
TO ATTACK
HER?

GOTTA BE
SOMETHING HATIN'
ON CAPTAIN
MARVEL.

SHE *IS*
A TROUBLE
VORTEX.

EVERYONE!
RUN!





AAAAA
HHHHH

LISTEN
UP! THIS IS
SOME KIND OF
PORTAL--

--AND
IT'S TRYING
TO CLOSE
ON US!

DON'T
PANIC. I'LL
HOLD IT
OPEN.

I GOT
THIS. TRUST
ME.

NEXT



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